

# The ATHLETIC JOURNAL

JANUARY, 1928



## A Review of 1927 Athletics

*By John L. Griffith*

## Blocking and the Screen Play in Basketball

*Oswald Tower*

## Basketball Objectives

*W. G. Kline*

## The 1928 Basketball Rules

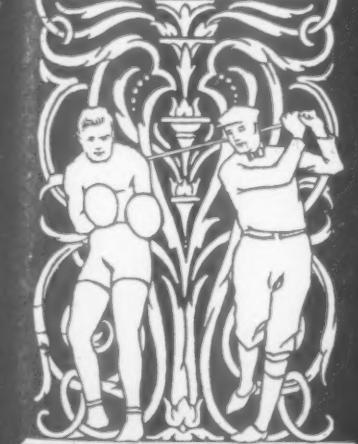
*John J. Schommer*

## Basketball Defense

*C. S. Edmundson*

## Winning Basketball Games by Making Fewer Fouls

*Dr. Forrest C. Allen*



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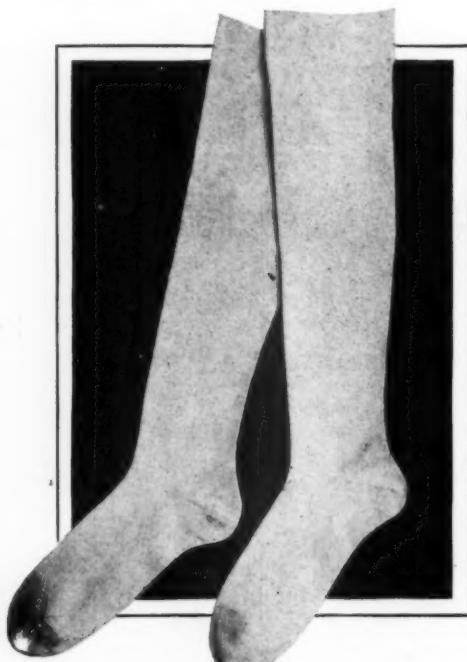
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Coaches are aided in their buying directly from studying the advertising pages of the ATHLETIC JOURNAL, but the manufacturer or dealer is very often not cognizant of the part that the magazine had in helping to make the sale. For instance, the editor was visiting a certain high school not long since and the coach showed him about his athletic field and gymnasium. This coach had recently purchased ten thousand knock-down bleachers. He was asked where he bought the seats and why. The reply was that he saw an advertisement in the ATHLETIC JOURNAL and as a result wrote the manufacturer for prices and closed the deal. He added that a coach from another high school saw the bleachers and liked them so well that he also ordered several thousand knock-down seats from the same firm. Here was a case in which the JOURNAL advertisement was responsible for two sales and yet the manufacturer did not know that his ad in the JOURNAL had helped him in the transaction.

Every manufacturer has his trade catalog which represents the story of his business, and the things which he has to sell. It would pay the coaches to have copies of the catalogs of the leading manufacturers on their desks, to study these and from them learn all that is possible to learn about the different types of athletic goods manufactured. It would also help the JOURNAL if every time a request is made for a catalog the coach would mention the fact that he had seen the advertisement in the ATHLETIC JOURNAL. Further, the coaches have an opportunity of helping this magazine if they care to do so by writing direct to the manufacturers regarding their estimates of the publication and by speaking of the JOURNAL to the salesmen and dealers. As the advertising volume in the publication increases we are enabled to improve the magazine, and this means that the coaches directly are benefited. It has always been the policy of the JOURNAL management to publish a trade journal for the athletic coaches. We are desirous of improving the quality of the JOURNAL each year. The coaches can help not only by buying from JOURNAL advertisers but also by letting the advertisers know that their space advertising in the JOURNAL has been read by the coaches and has been of some value to them.

# The ATHLETIC JOURNAL

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Published monthly except July and August by the ATHLETIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY, 6858 Glenwood Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Subscription, \$1.50 per year; Canada, \$1.75; foreign, \$2.00

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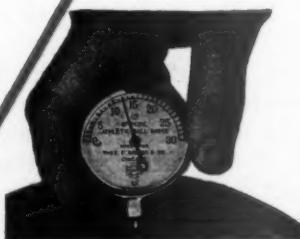
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# The ATHLETIC JOURNAL

## Nation-Wide Amateur Athletics

Volume VIII

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Number 5

## A Review of 1927 Athletics

*While the athletic year is usually considered to run from September to June, this review deals with athletics for the calendar year of 1927*

By John L. Griffith

### Football

**S**O far this year not much has been said or written prophetic of the future of intercollegiate football. Whether this means that those persons who have been annually predicting the early demise of football have concluded that they did not have the gift of prophecy or whether they have decided to abandon football and the colleges to their fate cannot be said.

THE JOURNAL has heretofore ventured to suggest that intercollegiate and interscholastic football has not yet reached the peak of development and popularity. The basis for this reasoning is the following.

1. Enrollment in American colleges and universities has increased twenty-five per cent in the last five years. The enrollment in the secondary schools increased from 15,503,110 in 1900 to 26,000,000 in 1925. There is no reason to believe that we have reached the peak in student attendance in the schools and colleges and since there is a positive correlation between the numbers of students engaging in athletic sports as well as the number who watch the institutional teams play and student attendance it is safe to predict that football prosperity will continue to increase so long as the student enrollment in-

creases unless some other factor enters in to militate against football.

2. The per capita wealth of the United States is increasing. In 1900 it was \$1,164.79 and in 1925 it was \$3,400. Experts predict that this coming year business in general will be from ten to fifteen per cent better than in 1927. Probably no other nation than this could afford to pay \$320,000 (which is in round numbers the amount paid in at the Notre Dame-University of Southern California game) for admissions to a football game. As our national wealth increases our people can more and more afford to buy tickets to college and high school games and this means the colleges and high schools will be enabled to promote more football.

3. While much is said and written concerning evils in athletics and the over-emphasis placed on football the public generally believes in the honesty of football and has faith in the men who are administering college and school athletics.

Considering the factors which have contributed to the success of amateur football we may assume that, unless there be a public calamity or plague which would decrease our population, unless there be a financial crisis with the attendant hard times or unless the men who are responsible for the ad-

ministration of football be not worthy of their trust or be unequal to the task of administering football in such a manner as to merit the confidence of the best people of this country, our colleges and high schools will be forced to increase their stadia and more boys will each year play football.

### Some Outstanding Teams

It is impossible to select a national football champion and nothing is gained by attempting to determine championships by guess work. THE JOURNAL believes that where championships can be determined without overworking the men and keeping them away from their classes too much that it is desirable to determine who the outstanding characters are in athletics and in other lines. However, no fair standard has yet been devised for determining champions in football, baseball and basketball in organizations so large that it is impossible for each college to meet the other at least once in a season.

In the east there were several outstanding teams such as Yale, Pittsburgh, Washington & Jefferson and the Army, but who can say which team was the best.

In the south the University of Georgia has the distinction of defeating Yale and many of the best south-



University of Southern California Team of 1927

ern teams and of losing but one game and that to Georgia Tech. Football in the south and in the southwest is gradually improving and today the best teams south of the Mason & Dixon line are capable of competing on even terms with the best teams of the eastern sea-coast, the middlewest or the Pacific coast region.

The Western Conference does not award a football championship. The newspapers usually select as Conference champions the team with the best Conference percentage rating. This last year the University of Illinois team defeated Northwestern, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio State. Coach Zuppke followed the policy of using fresh players continually and this was especially valuable in the early games against Northwestern and Michigan when the weather was warm. In some games he used as many as thirty-two players. At the end of the season Illinois awarded letters to twenty-eight men, the largest number in the history of the university. The Illinois team was generally known as a starless aggregation. This caught the fancy of the newspaper writers and yet several of the Illinois players were brilliant performers. One feature of Illinois' play was her offense. The Illinois backs carried the ball 288 times for a gain of 1,255 yards or an average of 4.36 yards each time the ball was carried.

The University of Minnesota team did not lose a Conference game but tied with Indiana University. President Coffman of Minnesota at the end of the season waived all claims to the Conference championship and congratulated Illinois. This was very magnanimous and sporting because following a percentage system of rating where tie games are not counted

Minnesota would have had a 1000 per cent standing.

All of the Big Ten teams were dangerous and every one won at least one Conference game.

In the Missouri Valley Conference the University of Missouri won five games and lost one and was generally considered as having won the Conference championship. At Missouri twenty-nine players were given letter awards, this being the largest number in any one season at Missouri.

The Colorado Aggie football team coached by Harry Hughes lost but one game, that being to Denver University, and was rated at Rocky Mountain Conference champion for 1927.

In the Southwest Conference the A. & M. College of Texas won championship honors with a record of no defeats and only one tie. This team was coached by Dana X. Bible who has the distinction of having won five Conference championships during the ten years that he has been head coach at Texas A. & M. Of the total 262 points scored by Texas A. & M. during the season Captain Joel Hunt accounted for 128 points or nearly half of the nineteen touchdowns and fourteen points after touchdowns for place kicks. Fifteen of the 1927 players were awarded varsity letters by the athletic council. Texas A. & M. this year dedicated the first unit of a new concrete football stadium that is to be built, a unit at a time, over a period of years. The new unit which was completed this year will seat ten thousand spectators and cost \$75,000.

On the Pacific Coast Howard Jones developed the best football team that has ever been turned out at the University of Southern California and merits championship recognition. The Trojans lost to Notre Dame in an

intersectional game but on the coast they were unbeaten. Stanford won four Conference games and tied U. S. C. and consequently is entitled to a claim for a tie with the latter team.

Idaho had a clear record in Conference competition.

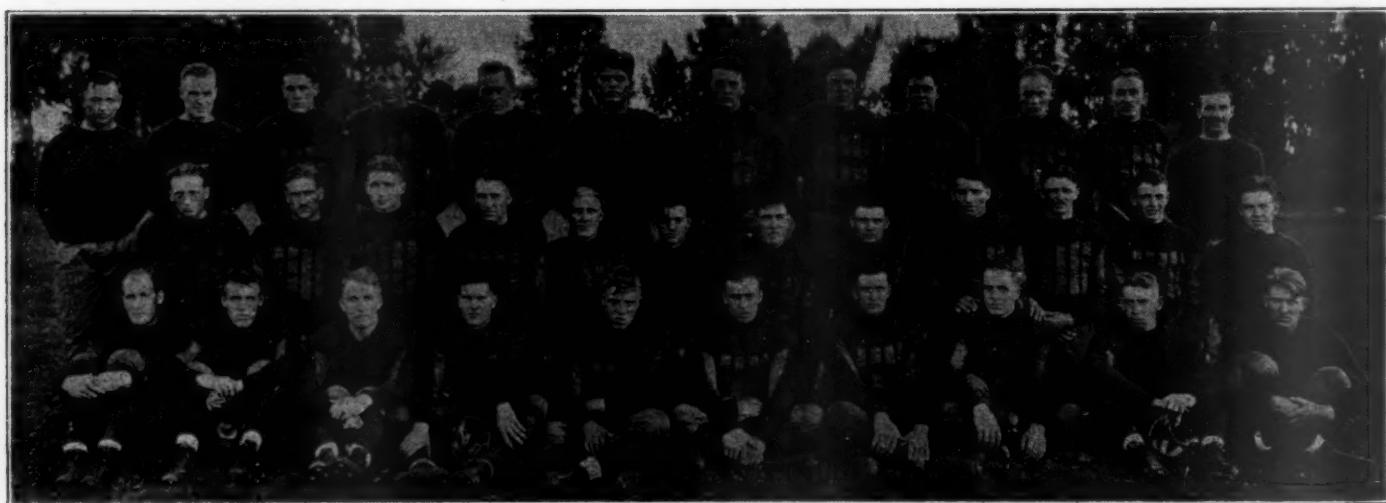
St. Mary's College won the Far Western Conference championship and had the distinction of beating Stanford.

#### Basketball

THE increase in the number of players in basketball in 1927 was especially marked. To give an idea of some of the proportions to which the game has grown from this standpoint, illustrations will be given. In the state of Indiana eight hundred high schools belonged to the Indiana High School Athletic Association and maintained basketball teams. This means that on certain nights approximately four hundred basketball games are played and something like ten thousand high school boys are coached and carried on the school squads.

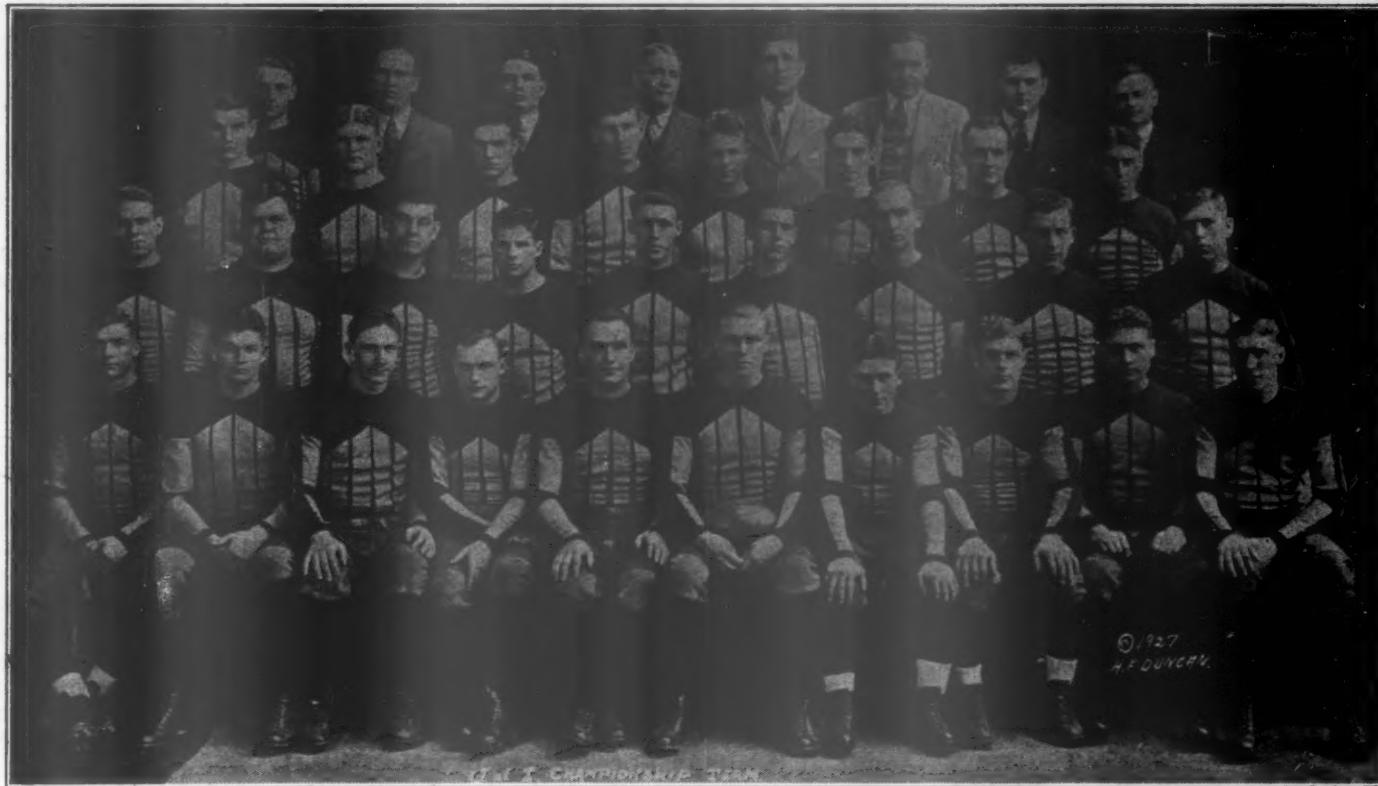
In the universities where basketball is steadily growing as a major sport its development as an intramural sport has been even more marked. For instance, last winter at Ohio State University two hundred forty-three men were given coaching and training on the varsity and freshman varsity squads. There were also two hundred forty-eight intramural basketball teams on which two thousand two hundred thirty one men competed.

In many of the high schools and colleges basketball has become the major sport. No other intercollegiate and interscholastic sport has grown so rapidly in interest as basketball as judged by the erection of field houses



Colorado Aggie Squad, 1927

Top row, left to right: Coach Hughes, Coach Ryan, Wilson, Housstein, Loftus, Rankin, Vichers, Beattie, Graves, McGaughay, Keyser and Coach Wagner.  
 Middle row: Parkhill, Capt. Caldwell, Davis, Ament, Brand, Mehle, Brady, Pitcher, Prince, French, Barrows and Coach Clammer.  
 Bottom row: Carl Brown, Lory, Winkoff, Williams, Wright, Evans, Dunn, Shellabarger, Hannah and Howe.



*The 1927 University of Illinois Championship Football Team*

*Back row: D. T. Stuessy, Asst. Coach Rokusek, Asst. Coach Klein, Asst. Coach Lindgren, Asst. Coach Olander, Trainer M. Bullock, Sr. Mgr. D. Grimes, and Coach Robert Zuppke.*

*Third row: L. S. Burdick, L. Grable, L. M. Marriner, L. J. Gordon, W. Jolley, A. D'Ambrosio, H. E. Richman and A. E. Wolgast.*

*Second row: E. F. Nelson, M. H. Mitterwallner, A. J. Nowack, J. A. Timm, G. A. Grange, D. R. Mills, J. R. Stewart, W. E. Short and L. Wietz.*

*Front row: F. Humbert, K. J. Deimling, R. J. Crane, F. H. Walker, C. Perkins, Captain Rob Reitsch, A. B. French, L. Muegge, Wm. McClure and E. W. Schultz.*

and basketball pavilions in comparison with the building of other sports equipment. Until a few years ago basketball in most of the institutions was conducted at a financial loss. It may be said that this game quite generally pays its own way now.

There is danger that a game may suffer unless wisely administered by making it so technical that too much will depend upon the officials. There is an increasing tendency both in football and basketball for the coaches, officials and the public to insist that the rules be improved and as a result each year the various rules committees add technicalities to the game which place greater burdens on the officials. This in turn causes more or less of a spirit of hostility on the part of the coaches and players toward the officials. That is, the coaches resent the fact that basketball is becoming too much an official's game and this is true. However, the officials are not responsible for the fact that each year they are given more responsibility. All of our efforts in basketball legislation should be directed toward simplicity, toward the elimination of technicalities which are hard to judge and should be made with the idea of keeping the officials as much as possible in the background.

### Basketball in Southern California By Leo Calland

*University of Southern California*

**S**OUTHERN CALIFORNIA with its unusual climate is not a natural basketball center. Competition in such outdoor sports as track, baseball, tennis, golf, and swimming have such a lure that it is difficult to develop interest in a confining sport, such as basketball. In fact it is only within recent years that adequate gymnasiums have been built to care for the increasing popularity of the game, but considering this handicap, the standard of play in the high schools and colleges is very good. This is probably due to the natural athletic ability developed through a year round outdoor play period for the average Southern California boy.

Training is begun early for the majority of the players as every grammar school and playground has outdoor courts which are kept in constant use throughout the year. It is true that it is impossible to develop a high grade of basketball upon an outdoor court yet the individual technique and the fundamentals of team play are learned and developed.

Exclusive of the twenty Los Angeles city high schools which are not allowed to meet outside teams, the

high schools of Southern California are divided into sixteen leagues. The winner of each league is entitled to go into the play-off for the championship.

Huntington Park High School won the title from Long Beach High School in the 1927 finals. Fillmore, San Bernardino and Pasadena all had strong teams. Hollywood, Manual Arts and Lincoln High School were the strongest in the city league of Los Angeles.

Eight colleges comprise the Southern California Inter-collegiate Conference. Whittier, Occidental, San Diego, Pomona, Redlands, LaVerne and California Institute of Technology play a grade of basketball that is nearly on a par with that in the Pacific Coast Conference. The University of California at Los Angeles which tied with Whittier College for the 1927 title came into the Pacific Coast Conference this month. They are expected to keep up their record of the last few years in winning the majority of the games played with the larger Conference teams.

The style of play of the two teams that met in the Southern Conference championship last year was typical of this section. Both used the set five-man defense with an occasional shift

to the man-to-man defense against certain types of offense. University of California at Los Angeles, like many of the teams in Southern California used a set formation for working the ball through the five-man defense. Whittier used a long pass to the center of the floor and a quick breaking short pass game from there on, endeavoring to get within scoring distance before their opponents set up a defense. They also utilized the dribble and trailer type of offense with good success.

The University of Southern California the senior member of the two Los Angeles institutions in the Pacific Coast Conference now has a local rival to point for. They open athletic relations with the local University of California in a three-game series that will be played late in February in the Olympic Auditorium before a capacity crowd of eight thousand. This series will open a new era in Southern California basketball as only a few years ago it was difficult to attract any crowd at all out to a game.

In addition to the school and inter-collegiate teams there are many church, industrial, Y. M. C. A. and independent leagues. The A. A. U. league composed of the strongest athletic clubs in this section is the best of this competition. The Hollywood Athletic Club defeated the Los Angeles Athletic Club for the first time in history in the 1927 finals. With a team composed of former college stars the H. A. C. is undoubtedly the strongest outfit in Southern California this year. The Pacific Coast Club, Pasadena A. C., Alhambra A. C., and Los Angeles Y. M. C. A. all have strong clubs every year.

The caliber of play in this section is improving rapidly. Formerly visiting teams from the Pacific Northwest, Rocky Mountain and Middle West had a difficult time finding suitable competition. Last year visiting teams failed to get an even break in games won and lost.

As to the type of play used by the majority of teams, many types are found. Like the population the coaches come from every section of the country and each brings his style along. Miniature Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas and Oregon Aggie games are played every week.

The set five man defense is in general, although not universal use. Every team has some type of set floor plays on offense, all of them depending on a fast break to a vulnerable spot. The quick breaking short pass style of offense, long pass or long shot with a quick follow up and the dribble and pivot game are seen constantly.

The general tendency is not to hold a team to any one style of defense or offense but to shift to meet the particular mode of play of the opponents. This is necessary as the game is not standardized as in some other sections of the country.

### The 1927 Basketball Season Among the Eastern Schools and Colleges

By Oswald Tower

THE Eastern schools and colleges are not well organized into leagues or conferences, and consequently at the close of a basketball season it is difficult to rate the teams of this section. The Eastern Collegiate League, organized in 1902 and in operation continuously since that time with the exception of the years 1909 and 1910, has always been the outstanding group of the section. The league championship was won last year by Dartmouth through a victory in a red-hot post season play-off of a tie with Princeton. This game was played at the University of Pennsylvania Palestra, Dartmouth winning by a score of 26 to 24, and taking the championship to the New Hampshire hills for the first time in the history of the league.

College basketball in the East, however, is not confined to the Eastern League. In fact, several of the institutions claim to turn out better teams year after year than any of the league members. Last season the league teams fell frequently before the onslaughts of outside teams. Fordham, for instance, won eighteen games out of twenty, including victories over two of the league teams as well as over West Point and Annapolis. Syracuse is always up with the very best of the section and last year lost only one game to an Eastern college. On its Western trip, Syracuse lost to Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pittsburgh by close scores. Penn State has had better seasons than the last one, yet fourteen victories, including one over Princeton, out of eighteen played, is not a bad record. The Naval Academy had an exceptionally good year, not only winning its objective game from West Point, but trimming all but two of the other opponents on the list and gaining first rank among the colleges of the South Atlantic group.

In New England, Springfield College produced the leading team, but was closely pressed for first honors by New Hampshire. Each lost only one game, but New Hampshire's defeat was at the hands of Springfield. New Hampshire won the New England Conference championship, made up of the state colleges of the section.

The "Little Three" championship among Williams, Wesleyan, and Amherst, ended in a triple tie. University of Vermont walked away with the state championship, winning all the games of a six-game series from Norwich and Middlebury, and being the only team to put a black mark on Springfield's record.

It is even more difficult to rate the high schools although in some states the leading teams are determined by tournaments. There is, however, no tournament which brings together the leading teams of the eastern states. In New England, the Tufts Tournament has been abandoned temporarily, so the championship of the New England states for 1927 was not decided. In Maine, Bar Harbor and Westbrook Seminary won the tournament championships for the eastern and western parts of the state, respectively. Manchester led the field in New Hampshire after a hard battle with Franklin; Burlington won in Vermont; Bristol in Connecticut, and Rogers in Rhode Island. The state champion in Massachusetts was not determined, but the winners of the four tournaments held in the state were as follows: Medford, Holyoke, Worcester North, and Oliver Ames.

The Eastern States Tournament held at Glen Falls, New York, and open to both high schools and preparatory schools was won by Christian Brothers Academy of Syracuse against a strong array of teams, including Dean Academy which was probably the best prep school outfit in New England. In the state high school tournament at Buffalo, Yonkers carried off the championship after a hard struggle with Elmira. New Jersey has its schools grouped into four divisions. In class A Trenton captured top honors among the state high schools, with St. Benedict's winning the corresponding prep school position.

With the new Palestra at its disposal University of Pennsylvania conducted its most successful interscholastic tournament. This is an invitation tournament, divided into high school and preparatory school groups, and bringing together representative teams from Pennsylvania and neighboring states. The championship in the high school division was won by Washington, D. C., Central, and in the preparatory class by York Collegiate.

### Basketball—Pacific Northwest

By C. S. Edmundson

FOR the purpose of determining the Pacific Coast Conference championship in basketball and to insure each team an equal chance in the race, the teams of the North and



A. &amp; M. College of Texas 1927 Southwest Conference Football Team

Left to right: Front row (sitting): R. L. Mortellra, Houston; J. A. Rektorik, Violet; T. W. Mills, Groesbeck; R. R. Dorsey, Fort Worth; Frank Ish, Waco; I. C. Snead, Waco; H. E. Burgess, Hale Center; J. G. Holmes, Troup; R. A. Cody, Celeste; Walter Ewell, Dallas. Middle row: H. P. Wylie, Dallas; Z. W. Bartlett, Marlin; R. Varnell, Barry; O. D. Alsabrook, Cisco; Capt. Joel Hunt, Waco; J. V. Sikes, Leonard; S. J. Petty, Decatur; W. E. Davis, Stephenville; C. E. Richter, Laredo. Top row: D. X. Bible, head coach; J. A. Duffebach, Fort Worth; C. T. Decker, Mission; J. E. Brown, Alvord; W. S. Lister Livingston; A. C. Sprott, Livingston; Tom Holleron, San Antonio; E. E. Figari, Galveston; Brooks Conover, Dallas; C. F. Bassett, line coach.

South have been divided into two groups. Those of the northern section play a double round robin. Thus each team is seen once on each foreign floor.

Oregon for the second time in as many years led the larger group to the finals and had the privilege of playing the winner of the southern section which for the third straight time was the University of California. Of the ten conference games played Oregon won eight, one more than the Universities of Idaho and Washington who tied for second. The Oregon Agriculture College, Washington State College and the University of Montana followed in the order named.

The championship series between the two leaders was played on the floor of the University of Oregon and was won by California in two games straight by scores of 35 to 29 and 33 to 21. Oregon had about midseason one of the best offensive teams that this conference has ever seen. However a long barnstorming tour during the Xmas vacation and the fact that she had few valuable substitutes to relieve the regulars caused the team to lose edge so that in the closing games of her season she was just one of the good teams.

Oregon used a five man offense, sending two men down the side lines fast usually ahead of the ball. With one exception the men were tall and all were fast and shot well. It seemed that if one was "off" the others were

"on," for they were dangerous from well out on the floor at all times. They used the five man defense.

Washington and Idaho used very much the same type of offense and defense. Idaho was probably a little more deliberate in her attack, though both attempted on most occasions to work the ball well under the basket before taking a shot. Both used the so called "old fashioned defense" man to man. However, it seemed to have some merit. Idaho had the lowest point average scored against her during the season while Washington was second in this department.

The Oregon Agriculture College again used the "percentage system." On attack their center always went to the right corner, one of the guards into the left, while the other three men worked farther out on the floor, one guard on the left, a forward in the center of the floor with the remaining forward on his right near the side line. From this definite formation they started all of their plays which depended largely on quick breaks and blocking. It is the most deliberate type of offense and, usually though not always, is slow in bringing the ball into scoring territory. They also used the man to man defense.

The Washington State College used the dribble and pivot with a trailer a good deal and the zone defense with good effect.

The University of Montana used a

rushing offense with all five men down the floor and a five man defense.

### Basketball in the Southwest Conference

By Francis A. Schmidt

Director of Athletics, University of Arkansas BASKETBALL in the Southwest Conference, in 1927, had its most successful year in history. The Southwest Conference is composed of Baylor University, Rice Institute, Southern Methodist University, Texas A. and M. College, Texas Christian University, University of Arkansas and University of Texas.

Increased interest and attendance have made basketball a self-supporting sport. During the past season, two new basketball pavilions were erected at Southern Methodist University and at Texas Christian University, each seating in the neighborhood of three thousand spectators.

A no small factor in the added popularity of the game has been due to the excellent officiating in the Conference. Both a referee and an umpire have been used in the games in the past. In 1928 the Conference will have a new double-refereeing system in the hopes of further speeding up the game. Officials are agreed upon by the coaches and athletic directors of the Southwest Conference, and are then assigned by a committee.

A schedule is arranged by a committee of the Conference and is ap-

proximately a round robin with the exception of Arkansas which, because of its location, meets half of the teams in a two game series at Fayetteville, and the other half in two games in Texas, alternating groups every other year.

The faculty representatives of the Conference have made several regulations in regard to basketball, some of which are: the total number of games is limited to twenty; organized practice must not begin before November 1; no games or organized practices are allowed two days before Christmas or three days after, and only six preliminary games are allowed before January 5.

The contests during the 1927 season were closer and the teams were more evenly matched than ever before. No less than eleven Conference games resulted in a tie, or were won by a margin of one point.

The leading teams were closely grouped. The University of Arkansas for the second straight year won the Conference title, Texas and Southern Methodist University were tied for second place with Texas Christian University but a half-game behind.

The style of play in the Conference varied from a straight man to man cover to a shifting zone five man defense. All of the teams use a fast break, short pass, and hard follow in their scoring attack.

Three new coaches from Western Conference schools will be in charge of teams in the Southwest this season: "Chuck" Bassett of Michigan, at Texas A. and M.; Daugherty of Illinois, at Rice Institute; and Fred Walker of Chicago at Texas University. The old coaches returning this season are: James St. Clair at Southern Methodist University; Madison Bell at Texas Christian University; Ralph Wolfe at Baylor; and Francis Schmidt at Arkansas.

On the whole the indications are that the coming season will be even better than the season of 1927, which eclipsed all the previous years in interest and quality of basketball.

### Rocky Mountain Conference Basketball

By John Van Liew

THE Rocky Mountain Conference Basketball Championship which is annually decided by a series of games between the champions of the eastern and western sections of the conference, was won in 1927 by the Montana State College of Bozeman, Montana. The Montana Bobcats won their divisional championship in the last game by defeating the Utah Aggies who were the 1926 champions. The teams are coached by brothers, the Romneys.

The championship of the eastern section was won by Colorado College of Colorado Springs, Colo., by a two game margin over Greeley Teachers, the runnersup. Greeley threatened until the last when they weakened and were beaten by Wyoming and Colorado Aggies.

The final series played in Colorado Springs, was won by Montana State, two games to one. Colorado College won the first game 32 to 31 but could not keep the pace and dropped the last two games 29 to 17 and 32 to 23.

The brand of basketball played in the mountain section compares very favorably with the basketball played by the best schools in the midwest. The present season will bring forth another desperate battle as all teams report stronger teams and the two leaders boast the same teams.

Thompson of Montana State was the outstanding forward of the conference with 167 points in 12 conference games. Worthington of Utah Aggies was the outstanding center. Clark of Colorado College was the best looking

player on the east side of the mountains. James of Denver Univ., Simpson of C. C. and Harkins were other prominent players from the eastern section.

### A Review of Athletics in Kansas High Schools for the Year 1927

By E. A. Thomas

Executive Secretary, Kansas State High School Athletic Association

KANSAS high school athletics enjoyed one of the most successful years in its history during 1927. Nine new records were established at the state track meet. Byers of the South Haven High School set new records in both hurdle events running the high hurdles in 15.5 and the lows in 24.9. Ehrlich of Marion ran the 220 yard dash in 21.6 seconds and Ward of Hays established a record of 50.6 seconds in the 440. Zeigler of Junction City ran the 880 in 1:59.4 and Manning of Sedgwick set a record of 4:30.5 in the mile. Madson of Hutchinson leaped an even 6 feet in the high jump and 21 feet 11 1/4 inches in the broad jump while Trueblood of Lawrence vaulted 12 feet 1 1/4 inches.

More state basketball champions have come from the Arkansas Valley league than from any other section of the state and this year another Arkansas Valley team, Winfield, came through with the title. They had won only second honors in the elimination tournament and were not picked to go far. However, they displayed a brand of basketball that stamped them as undoubtedly the best team in Kansas the week of the state tournament. Lawrence, another outsider, won second honors and in Graeber they had a player who was awarded the honor of being the most valuable man to his team in the state. Winfield has five letter men back for the 1928 season and is doped to go far. Strange to say, the slow breaking teams seem to win a large percentage of the championships. Newton and Winfield, the former always a dangerous contender, are exponents of a more or less slow break from defense to offense and allow their opponents to get set before attempting to break through to score. They are adept and clever handlers of the basketball and their success is as marked as that of past champions such as Kansas City Central, Emporia and Wichita who use a fast breaking, fast passing offense.

The 1927 foot ball season was the most outstanding in the state's history. Favored by almost ideal weather, the teams developed to a point far beyond the 1925 standard.



University of Georgia Team of 1927

Back row, left to right, Dudley, half; Johnson, quarter; McCrary, full; Hooks, half  
Front row, Shiver, Lautzenhiser, Smith, Boland, Jacobson, Morris and Nash  
(Lautzenhiser and Jacobson have been named captains for 1928, tying in the voting)

Lyons High School rolled up a total of 512 points against good representative opponents and came through a nine game schedule without a point being scored against her. Pratt had a similar record with the total scores being 450 to 0. Haven and Frontenac, two schools of smaller size, registered 579 and 145 respectively to their opponents' nothing. Haven received nation-wide publicity by running up a score of 256 points against one of her opponents. Fourteen teams in the state had all-victorious seasons and fifteen others were undefeated, although playing one or more tie games. More than five hundred high schools had football teams and many new leagues were formed during the past year.

One feature of high school athletics in Kansas is the formation of new leagues in which the number of teams is kept low. Several leagues of five and six teams have been formed, thus allowing inter-league contests and games between league teams and their rivals outside the league.

Kansas is a state with hundreds of small high schools. The state high school athletic association has 670 members and every member has a basketball team. The state basketball tournament for 1928 will be held at Southwestern College, Winfield.

#### A Brief Line-up of Athletics as Conducted in the State of Montana

By R. H. Wollin

Secretary-Treasurer, High School Athletic Association

Each year an annual track meet is held at Missoula, Montana, under the direct auspices of the Montana State University. In the neighborhood of 125 high schools and several hundred contestants take part in this meet each year. In the spring of 1927 Butte High School won first with Philipsburg a close second, Missoula High School third place and Miles City fourth.

The state basketball championship elimination is conducted by the Montana State College at Bozeman. Each year the winners and runners up of the various districts of the state are invited to take part in the state meet at Bozeman, 16 teams competing. In March, 1927, Billings High School won the state championship in basketball with Butte Central winning second place. The games were closely contested and a fine tournament was put on. Montana has developed a high class of basketball and the state meet is considered a fine athletic event. As a preliminary to the state tournament most of the districts of the state have district tournaments and the

winners of first and second place take part in the state tournament.

The state football championship is handled under the auspices of the State School of Mines with Professor Walter T. Scott acting as director. The state is divided into eight districts. After the district championships have been determined the winners meet for the inter-district championship and as a final elimination the two winning teams meet at Butte for the state championship. About 125 teams compete in the football elimination series. For the fall of 1927 Butte High School won the state championship by defeating Billings High School.

The State Board of Athletic Control has general supervision over all these contests, making such suggestions as may be necessary for the carrying on of the district and state tournaments. The State Board of Control is composed of the officers and directors of the Montana State High School Athletic Association. The year 1926-27 has been an exceptionally fine year for athletics in Montana with a wonderful spirit of goodwill and co-operation manifest. The members of the Board of Control for Montana are as follows:

Superintendent C. W. Grandey, Terry, president.

Principal W. J. Shirley, Havre, vice-president.

Principal R. H. Wollin, Miles City, secretary-treasurer.

Superintendent E. A. Hinderman, Whitefish, director.

Principal J. R. Culber, Deer Lodge, director.

#### High School Athletics in New Mexico

By J. T. Reid

Secretary-Treasurer, High School Athletic Association

All forms of athletic sport in New Mexico are somewhat handicapped because of the long distances that have to be traveled in competition. One team in the state traveled (or brought other teams) 930 miles to play eight games of football—an average of 115 miles per game. Despite this fact, however, there is good interest in New Mexico in the sports of football, basketball and track.

We have a High School Athletic Association with a membership of 88 schools which is functioning fairly well for its age. About one third of these schools play football, all play basketball and about half put out track teams. Very few schools with an enrollment of less than 100 in high school attempt to play football and the

better teams are found in the larger schools.

Basketball is the predominating sport in New Mexico. It is the only sport in which the association attempts to determine champions. The state is divided into six districts and champions are declared at tournaments, who in turn compete at a state tournament for the state championship. There is no class division of the schools, so all compete on the same basis, small and large alike.

The state championship in basketball was won in 1923 and in 1924 by Hagerman, a town of some 500 inhabitants; in 1925 by Albuquerque, a city of about 30,000; and by Roswell in 1926 and in 1927. Roswell has about 8,000 people.

Twelve teams contended at Albuquerque in 1927 for state honors in basketball: Raton, Clayton, Las Vegas, Tucumcari, U. S. Indian School, Belen, Las Cruces, Tularosa, Roswell, Lake Arthur, Clovis and Melrose. When the dust cleared away for the finals, Roswell and Clayton were left to fight it out for the honor of representing New Mexico at the National tournament at Chicago. Roswell won with a more consistent brand of basketball, though Clayton was formidable opposition. It was felt by Clayton supporters that Clayton would have won had they not been made stale by excessive competition, having competed in three tournaments in as many weeks. Roswell entered the National tournament at Chicago and defeated Ft. Fairfield, Maine, in the first encounter but was eliminated in turn in their second game by Batesville, Arkansas. It is generally conceded that the brand of basketball put out by the Roswell basketeers last year was the best that New Mexico has seen for many years.

In track there is not the interest that basketball commands. But each year sees a growth along this line of sport. The State University holds an invitation meet each Spring in which teams from the larger schools compete. Tucumcari High School has won the meet for the last two years through the ability of one man, namely Ray Moncus. In the 1926 meet he won 25 of the 26½ points gathered for first place and last year the proportion was about the same. Moncus entered the National Meet at Chicago and succeeded in taking a first, a second and qualifying for another first. The United States Indian School at Albuquerque, Belen, Santa Fe, Albuquerque High were strong contenders for the honors that went to Tucumcari in the state meet.

Football is gradually gaining a way into the interests of the public in

New Mexico—both small schools and larger schools which have had an aversion to football are taking it up year by year. This season saw some creditable gridiron performances. Five or six schools stand out in the state as having the best teams: Las Cruces, Roswell, Indian School, Albuquerque High, Raton, and Tucumcari. Though the association does not declare championships in football, it is conceded that Las Cruces presented the most successful record for the season. In a post-season game, however, Phoenix, Arizona, defeated Las Cruces by a decisive score, 26 to 0.

### A Brief Review of High School Athletics in North Carolina for the Year 1927

By E. R. Rankin

Secretary, High School Athletic Association, North Carolina

THE High School Athletic Association of North Carolina conducts each year state high school championship contests in basketball, baseball, track, tennis, football, and soccer. The year 1927 has been a very successful year for high school athletics in North Carolina.

#### Basketball

One hundred and fourteen member high schools of the association took part in the thirteenth annual state high school basketball championship contest for North Carolina high schools.

The following high school teams won district championships in this contest in the eastern section of the state: Durham, Fremont, Jamesville, New Bern, Red Oak, Sanford, Wendell, and Wilmington.

The following high school teams won district championships in this contest in the western section of the state: Asheville, Charlotte, Churchland, Greensboro, Leaksville, Lincoln, Troutman, and Winston-Salem.

The final game for the state high school basketball championship which was played at Chapel Hill on March 5, 1927, by the Durham High School, eastern champions, and the Asheville High School, Western champions, resulted in a victory for the Durham High School by the score of 27 to 21.

#### Track and Tennis

The Charlotte High School won the fifteenth annual inter-scholastic track meet for North Carolina high schools which was held at Chapel Hill on April 15, 1927. The Greensboro High School took second place in the meet while the Asheville and Wilmington High Schools won third and fourth places, respectively.

The Charlotte High School also won

both singles and doubles in the twelfth annual inter-scholastic tennis tournament for North Carolina high schools which was held at Chapel Hill on April 14 and 15, 1927.

#### Baseball

Seventy-three high schools took part in the fourteenth annual state high school baseball championship contest for North Carolina high schools.

The following high school teams won district championships in this contest in the eastern section of the state: Clayton, Hamlet, Hertford, Oxford, Warsaw, Whiteville, Wilson, and Zeb Vance.

District championships in this contest in the western section of the state were won by high schools as follows: Asheville, Bonlee, Charlotte, Cherryville, High Point, Rockwell, Shelby, and Winston-Salem.

The final game for the state high school baseball championship which was played at Chapel Hill on May 21, 1927, by the Winston-Salem High School team, western champions, and the Wilson High School team, eastern champions, resulted in a victory for the Winston-Salem High School by the score of 6 to 2.

#### Football

Forty-four high schools entered the lists in the fourteenth annual state high school football championship contest for North Carolina high schools.

District championships in this contest in the eastern section of the state were won by high schools as follows: Greenville, Raleigh, Sanford, and Wilmington.

District championships in the high school football contest in the western section of the state were won by the following high schools: Asheville, Greensboro, Monroe, and Statesville.

The final game for the state high school football championship which was played at Chapel Hill on December 3, 1927, by the Wilmington High School, eastern champions, and the Greensboro High School, western champions, resulted in a victory for the Wilmington High School by the score of 7 to 6.

#### Soccer

Five high schools entered the first annual state high school soccer championship contest for North Carolina high schools. The final game for the state championship, played on December 7 by the Greensboro and Winston-Salem High School teams, resulted in a tie. The two schools will play again to break the tie, but at this writing the tie play-off game has not been played.

There are now 312 member high schools of the High School Athletic Association of North Carolina.

### Louisiana High School Athletics

By T. B. Pugh

THE year 1927 was a very successful one for high school athletics in Louisiana. The football season just closed developed many future college stars. A great interest was manifested in high school football. Many of the smaller high schools entered this branch of athletics for the first time. Many of these first-year teams made excellent showings. There was a noted improvement in the coaching of the teams, and good sportsmanship was shown in all contests. Many new schools were admitted to the State High School Athletic Association.

The plan of dividing the state into the northern and southern divisions, worked out even better than was hoped.

The Bogalusa High School and Patterson played off in the southern division. Bogalusa was victor—19-0. Bastrop was declared champions of the northern division.

Bogalusa and Bastrop met at State Field, Baton Rouge, on Dec. 10. Bastrop winning, 19-0. The game was sponsored by the State University and the High School Athletic Association.

Many promising athletes were discovered this season, and selecting an all-state team was no easy matter.

The district basketball tournaments will be held at Alexandria, Ruston, Natchitoches, Lafayette and Ponchatoula on Feb. 24 and 25. The three leading teams from each of these tournaments will meet at the state tournament to be held in Baton Rouge at the State University in early March.

The winner of the latter tournament will very probably enter the National Tournament in Chicago.

### Athletics in the Oregon High Schools

By Roy E. Cannon

Secretary-Treasurer of the Oregon High School Athletic Association

A REVIEW of the athletics of our state is told in part by the enclosed annual report of the 1927 state basketball tournament. The district teams are selected by a local board and said local board is chosen by the board of control. The board of control has as personnel: Austin Landreth, principal of Pendleton High School, Pendleton, Oregon, president; W. J. Mishler, superintendent of schools, Grants Pass, Oregon, vice-

(Continued on page 44)



aggregation for this year. Last year he lifted his 150 pounds over the bar which rested at 13 feet 9½ inches and on several occasions with the bar at 14 feet 2 inches Barnes made the track fans gasp, only to touch, ever so lightly, to have the leap fail.

Jesse Hill, Trojan broadjumper, with a leap of 24 feet 7 inches broke Pacific Coast records. It was at a meet with Stanford University and the old mark was shattered three times before Hill jumped at the same meet. On the first jump Hill succeeded in making the longest leap showing that under fire he is at his best. Hill uses the hitch-kick in the air and that is about all there is to say of his form. He weighs about 155 pounds and is 5 feet 9 inches in height.

Curley-headed, congenial, Charley Borah, Southern California's speed demon is something more than an unusual athlete. He is an honor student and attends classes every day from 8 o'clock in the morning until 5 o'clock in the afternoon and on Saturday's leaves very little time for the fleet-footed aspiring dentist to train. Most of his cinder-path exercising is done at dusk after the other track and field men have long gone to the showers. As a freshman Borah attended dental classes from 8 a. m. until 6 p. m. To be the sprinter Borah is and get the grades from a stiff course as Borah does is something a little out of the ordinary.

Commenting on Borah's style, he is a smooth runner and to watch him run one would say he is hardly exerting himself. Many critics have compared his form to that of Jackson Scholz. Borah's home town is Phoenix, Arizona, but he attended

Phillips Andover Academy at Massachusetts.

Jack Williams, Troy's second pole vaulter has done 13 feet 6 inches on more than one occasion and uses a modified jack-knife. He is large and weighty for a pole-vaulter, tipping the Fairbanks at around 170 and standing about 6 feet, two inches in height.

Of the four men track critics are unanimous in their opinions that Barnes and Borah are as good as can be found in their events. Barnes is fully expected to do 14 feet to tie Sabin Carr's record and Borah has shown that he can run as fast as anyone. Borah has been in two disputed races. He ran against Paddock

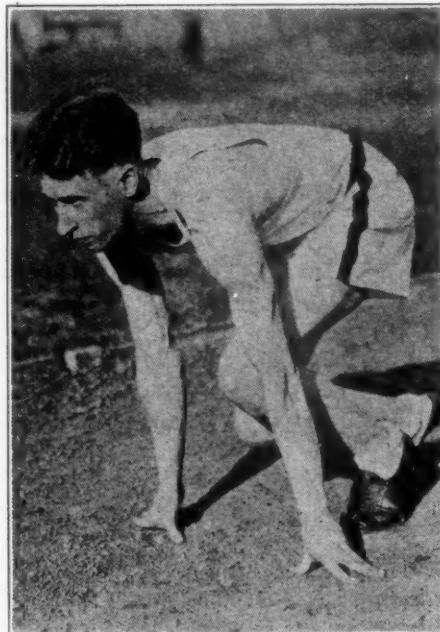
in a race that many believe was his but was given to Paddock and last year a decision was changed which gave Chester Bowman the race after it had been declared Borah's.

Everingham won the 220-yard dash in the Western Conference meet, 1927. Won the broad jump at the Kansas Relays. Was a member of the Iowa quarter mile relay team which won the event at the Drake Relays, equalling the Drake record of :41.6.

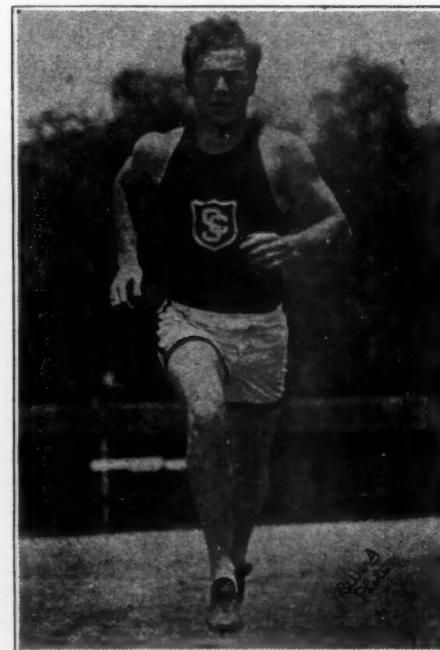
Everingham is five feet ten inches tall; weighs 145 pounds. He is slender with powerful legs. His smooth form was his best asset. He developed a fast start (he finished second in the Big Ten 100-yard dash). He used a slight float in the 220 yard dash at about the 120 yard mark. Everingham has finished his inter-collegiate career.

Schultz began running in his Freshman year. By running cross country two, three and four miles, he developed his endurance. In his Sophomore year he ran the 440 yd. in 50 seconds, but his stride was too short and he ran with his head too high. He did some sprinting, too. In his Junior and Senior years he specialized on sprinting. He was slow at starting at first, his fault being largely psychological, and he was unable to concentrate sufficiently. He was also too late getting into his racing stride from the starting stride. His arm and leg actions are nearly perfect, his stride medium. He has a strong finish but is inclined to throw his head back and to lose his body angle when pushed hard.

Ed. Haynes was graduated from West Denver High School in 1924 and entered Denver University in September, 1925. He never competed in



John Everingham, University of Iowa



Chas. E. Borah, University of Southern California



Jack Williams, University of Southern California



Jess Hill, University of Southern California

high school and first entered competitive sports the spring of 1926.

The starting position of Ed. Haynes is as follows: He digs his first hole fourteen inches from the starting line. He places his right knee beside his left heel and digs the back hole where his right toe marks the track. When at a set position, this throws his weight well forward on the left leg and arms, so that the back leg is slightly bent, thus giving him an instantaneous push from the back leg. When the back leg is bent too much it produces no power until nearly straight. His head is up and looking down the track. At the gun his first step is about fifteen inches in front of the starting line and he throws his body well forward, digging hard until under headway, using plenty of arm action.

His running position for sprinting is with the body slightly forward, head and neck extended, knees high and arms high and straight forward from the sides. When running the 440, he uses this sprinting form for the first 100 yards, after which he goes into a coast, lowering his knees, stretching out from the hips, carrying his arms in a semi-relaxed condition. When desiring to gain speed at any particular point of his race, Haynes throws his body forward into his sprinting form. His leg action is straight ahead, the push being from the outside of the foot. Haynes has always used an up and down movement of the head at every pace when sprinting. At first he combined it with a side motion also, which proved a disadvantage.

Haynes is primarily a sprinter, using his great speed at the start of a 440 instead of taking a steady pace the whole distance. This will be his third year and he should develop

into a greater runner as he matures.

Howard Shaffer Avery, outstanding low hurdler for Virginia Polytechnic Institute, made an enviable reputation in this event his first year on the cinders. Under the tutelage of Charles H. ("Hank") Kauffmann, former Penn State hurdler, he rose to a prominent place among South Atlantic trackmen in a single season.

Avery had never taken part in a track meet when he reported to Coach Kauffmann for indoor practice last winter. Quick to recognize ability in his men, the former Nittany star saw in Avery the making of a hurdler and worked faithfully with him

throughout most of the winter and spring. Actual competition showed the calibre of Kauffmann's ability and leadership, for Avery broke the tape in his event in five out of seven starts and never finished back of second place. His most notable feat closed the season. After winning his preliminary heat in the 220 lows in the South Atlantic track and field meet at the University of Richmond, Avery broke the tape in the final race, timed at 25.6 seconds on a wet track. This feat, accomplished in a pouring rain, on a track largely covered with water, tied the South Atlantic record for the event and stamped him one of the outstanding hurdlers of the southern division.

Kauffmann trained Avery as a sprinter, with more attention to endurance than one usually spends on sprinters. A great deal of attention was also paid to the development of a long stride and some time was devoted to training him for a quick getaway. Undoubtedly he is the product of hard work and careful attention to all suggestions given him. His hurdling form is the smooth style. When he ran his best he took the hurdles straight without any notice of a body bend, such as is found in a high hurdler.

In several of the races previous to the South Atlantics, he tried alternating but always turned in slow time and quit this method in mid-season. In regard to this, Coach Kauffmann says, "It is my personal belief that a man of Avery's size should never be allowed to alternate or even to start on it. I think that Avery would have made better time than he did had I stopped that foolishness before it started."

Avery is five feet eight inches in height and weighs 135 pounds.

Cuhel weighs 165 pounds and is five



Starting Position



"Leaving His Marks"



Digging Hard Until Under Headway



Finish of the 440 in Rocky Mountain Conference Meet at Denver, May 28, 1927.  
Time 48 Sec.



The Five Pictures on This Page Are of Ed Haynes, University of Denver

feet ten inches tall. Age, 22 years. He won the 220-yard low hurdles in the Big Ten meet, 1926-27. He also ran anchor on the Iowa mile relay team, helping this quartet to win at Illinois, Kansas, and Drake relays, and indoor Big Ten meet, 1926 and 1927.

Cuhel will captain the 1928 Iowa team. He will try for the American Olympic team in the 400-meter hurdles. He worked on this event for three weeks last summer.

Ralph Pearson, Publicity Director at Denison University, writes regarding Heinrichs:

Heinrichs had wonderful leg action. He was an all-around track man and could high jump, broad jump, run the dashes and hurdle with equal facility. Because of a bad arm which slipped out (became dislocated), very easily he was required to run always holding his arm or having it taped up across his chest. He was also a wonderful dropkicker but he could not be used in football or basketball because of his arm. He was forced to carry his trunk forward when he ran because of his arm thus he had a peculiar form. He skimmed the hurdles and was recognized as the best track man Denison ever produced.

He was captain of the team in 1927. His best performance was in the A. A. U. meet in Cincinnati in 1927.

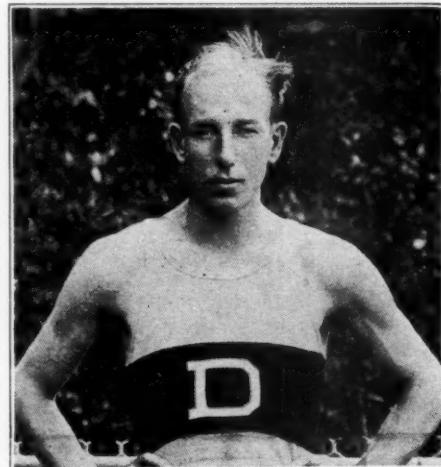
Harry Hillman, Track Coach of Dartmouth College, writes of Eber M. Wells as follows:

Eber M. Wells, Dartmouth '28, Track Captain season 1927-28 (college year), 5 ft. 10 in. tall, weight 160 lb.

Wells winner of the indoor 70 yard I.C.A.A.A. championship and 120 yards I.C.A.A.A. outdoor cham-



Frank J. Cuhel, University of Iowa



Leonard Heinrichs, Denison University Hurdler



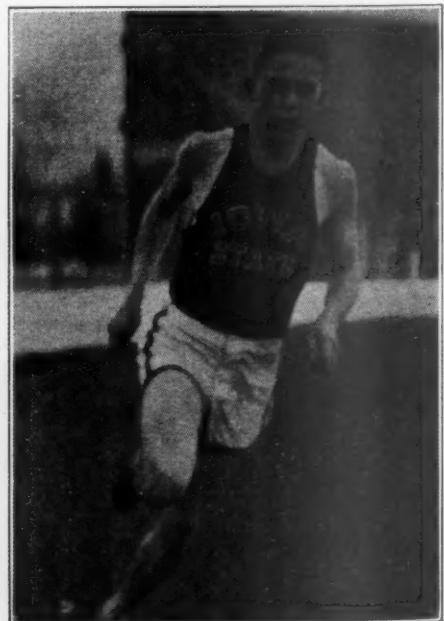
Eber M. Wells, Dartmouth College

pionship has developed particularly good form and has succeeded in doing this by continual effort for perfection. He is a student of athletics and seldom is it necessary to correct an error more than once as he will practice for days to correct a fault, even a minor one. At high school Wells competed in the jumps beside the low hurdles. He did not do any high hurdling until he entered college. In his freshman year at Dartmouth his best time for the 120 yard high hurdle was 16 1/5 sec. In his sophomore year he did 15 2/5 sec. and in his junior year he won the I.C.A.A. A.A. in 14.8 sec. Wells has good form; his front leg is perfect; his rear leg gradually swings over the hurdle and his arm action is good. Many hurdlers have a tendency to hit their rear leg with their arm coming back as in the photo of Wells in the act of clearing the hurdle. Note the side swing of the left arm swinging over the leg. Of course Well's knee is high in the photo as he is in the act of gradually bringing it up and out ready for the quick pick-up on the further side of the hurdle. If the above photo had been taken as the left knee was directly over the hurdle you would find his left knee and left ankle and foot in line with each other. Note the body action being directly facing the front, there is no twist of the body in going over the obstacle.

Wells is not so strong as Earl Thomson, former Dartmouth hurdler and present record holder for the 120 high hurdles, but he has particularly good form and plenty of speed.

Lindus L. Caulum, Missouri Valley Conference Champion in the 880 yard run for 1927, is one of those nervous,

(Continued on page 47)



H. S. Avery, Virginia Polytechnic Hurdler

L. L. Caulum, Iowa State

# Blocking and the Screen Play in Basketball

By Oswald Tower

BLOCKING has always been a favorite topic of discussion in basketball circles. The Rules Committee has spent many hours in attempts to frame a detailed statement which would cover the various forms of blocking, only to give it up as an impossible job and to fall back on the simple definition of blocking—"impeding the progress of a player who has not the ball"—expecting this definition to be supplemented by the good judgment of officials. On the whole, this policy has been satisfactory and blocking is not a serious problem, if we consider the game as played far and wide, yet it is serious in certain leagues and conferences. Whether it is a problem or not, one can start a healthy argument at any time among any group of basketball men by asking, "What is blocking?" And a little fuel may be added to the fire by supplementing this with the question, "What is legal blocking?"

So far as the basketball rules are concerned, there is no such thing as legal blocking, just as there is no such thing as a legal foul. Therefore, to avoid the use of a paradoxical term, the writer is borrowing a word from the parlance of football and will refer to what is commonly called legal blocking as the screen play, the play by which an opponent is shut off from direct approach to the man with the ball and by means of which a player protects or screens his teammate from his opponent. It is the purpose of this article to discuss this from the standpoint of the official, of legality, and of sportsmanship.

In the opinion of the writer, a well executed screen play is beyond the control of the officials of a game. When carried out according to design, the player who does the screening has the appearance of "playing the ball and not the man," he has a position on the court to which he is entitled because he got there first, and he causes no personal contact. How, then, is an official to justify calling a foul for blocking? A player has the privilege of moving into an unoccupied position on the court, and if in so doing, he happens to cut off the approach of an opponent, can it be said that he did this by design with the intent of blocking? On the other hand, a team which attempts the screen play without being thoroughly drilled in its use and without skillful execution, makes many an honest-to-goodness block, and



BACHRACH

Oswald Tower

*Mr. Tower was a regular guard or center on Williams College basketball teams for four years (1903-1907). During this time Williams won the New England championship twice and established claims to the championship of the Eastern states. Before and after college years Mr. Tower played on various club teams, being actively engaged as a player in the game for about ten years; for the past twenty years he has been active in the game as coach or official. In 1910 he was elected a member of the Collegiate Basketball Committee and in 1914 editor of the Collegiate Guide. Since the formation of the Joint Basketball Committee in 1915 he has been a member of the group representing the National Collegiate Athletic Association, editor of the Official Guide, and official interpreter of basketball rules for the Joint Committee. Mr. Tower has been a football official since 1910, and at present is a member of the New England Football Officials Association and of the Eastern Association of Football Officials.*

will be penalized freely and promptly. Even if not penalized for blocking, however, such a team will defeat itself by devoting too much attention to opponents and too little thought to the fact that goals are made by putting the ball into the basket. Whether a good screen play is of much value against a smart team is debatable, but it is a certainty that the screen play in the hands of a clumsy team is worth less than nothing because it is a positive handicap to those trying awkwardly to use it.

The foregoing is not in any sense an attempt to defend the "legal block." The writer believes this play to be contrary to the spirit of the rules, in that fundamentally it is interference with players who have not the ball and dependent for its success upon such interference. It leads to ill-feeling and roughness, especially when used by unskilled players who are sure to attempt any play which they see operated with success by others. Whether the play is legal or not within the literal interpretation of the rules, it is certainly dangerously close to the border-line between the legal and the illegal. Even in football, a game in which the block is an important feature, the use of the screen play is forbidden in connection with the forward pass; there must be no attempt to cut off the approach of defensive players who wish to intercept the ball. Eligible players of both teams are supposed to have an unrestricted chance to get the ball. This particular restraint in football applies to every play in basketball, for it has been realized since the earliest days of basketball that the blocking play which is so essential in football has no place in the indoor game. Why, then, tamper with the fundamentals of the game and experiment with a play which is a menace to its best development?

Assuming that the rules cannot be worded in a manner to cover all phases of the screen play, and assuming further that the officials are practically helpless if the play is well executed, we have only one way of controlling it, namely an agreement among coaches not to teach it. It requires long, patient drill to perfect this play, and there is no doubt that many coaches give valuable time to its development. Some teach it in self-defense—their opponents use it, so

they must do so. Every coach knows that he can use all the time at his disposal to develop the fundamentals of passing, dribbling, shooting, and the countless phases of offense and defense about the legality of which there is no question. Possibly the thought of a gentlemen's agreement not to drill on a shady play may seem a bit Utopian, but most of our coaches today are gentlemen and they realize their great responsibility in the proper ethical and moral development of the youth entrusted to their care. To be sure, we always have with us the type of coach who studies the rules for the purpose of learning all the possible ways of evading them. But the writer is optimistic enough to

think that this species is coming to be of relatively small importance in school and college ranks, and is tending toward extinction.

The proper attitude toward the rules would go far in the direction of correcting such evils as the one under discussion in this article. The rules of a game are the instructions under which it is played. They specify the equipment to be used, define terms technically used, provide for the method of scoring, and necessarily prohibit various acts. It is not to be assumed that it is proper to do anything and everything which is not expressly prohibited by the rules of the game. It is impossible and undesirable to specify every possible act to be

avoided—more are specified now in our football and basketball rules than ought to be necessary. The codes under which these games are played are not designed to govern criminals; they are directions to guide gentlemen who are to meet in tests of skill, speed, strength and endurance. We have much to say these days about the value of our athletic contests in teaching lessons in self-control to the youth. Let us hope that we are teaching our boys through their games to have the proper attitude toward rules and laws—not an attitude of skillful evasion, but a realization of their purpose, and compliance with them in spirit as well as in letter.

## Basketball Objectives

*Individual, Team and Two Rules*

By W. G. Kline

BASKETBALL has made such amazing progress in fifteen years that some coaches decided to call a halt and perhaps start a retrograde movement about a year or two ago, judging from their attempts to abolish the dribble. Many of the same coaches tried to inject football play into basketball while others honestly thought that the dribble was an evil. This dribble rule has been changed many times since 1908, but no one ever suggested the abolition of this great play or system of play until recently.

I have never advocated or coached the dribble game as a system of play offense, so I have no prejudice in its favor. I believe that the first great objective of the game of basketball is to make the game distinctively basketball. The dribble is the one distinctive basketball feature and the only real action feature. The free throw and tip-off are more or less mechanical.

The forward pass was taken out of basketball to the great benefit of football, but we still have the pass as the basis of attack in basketball. The shot is the third feature. These three comprise the fabric of all basketball offense.

A second objective is to develop the game element in basketball. Any one who can recall the haphazard passing and headlong, loose dribbling of fifteen to twenty years ago is impressed with the beautiful variety of good passes and the scientific dribbling of today. Coaches are just beginning to realize the play combination possibilities of five men.

A game that requires body, mind and spirit to play it with plenty of action, cleverness and deception is sure to be popular. A fine set of rules has been formulated and changed from time to time generally bettering the game. One rule seemed to cause most of the grief. Rule after rule was enacted to regulate the dribble and finally the present rule was re-enacted.

Basketball coaches, officials, critics, patrons and rule makers in general wanted the dribble properly restrained but retained. It is the great individual play. The present rule is entirely satisfactory. It is clear, simple and definite. It says that after a pivot a player must start the dribble (the ball must leave his hand or hands) before his pivot foot leaves the floor.

Coaches who employ the turn, pivot dribble did not like this. They wanted the same leeway permitted as on a shot or pass. The dribble-pivot and turn pass crowd wanted the dribbler given permission to start after the pivot foot hit the floor again on a pass or a shot. At least their teams played that way and officials allowed it quite generally in both systems. Such play meant charging and holding by the defense or rough play.

The official that did not call the travel violation of the offense should not call the foul of the defense. No trouble will be found with dribbling under the present rule if it is observed by coaches and enforced by officials.

Another rule that affects the game materially and should be more definitely promulgated is the one on blocking. This foul diminishes the game element. When does a player block? There is a divided opinion. I was one of a minority who contended that merely ignoring the ball or playing the man without looking for the ball at all, is not blocking. It may not be good basketball and may violate the basketball game fundamental that the ball should be played and not the man, but it is not blocking.

My idea is that the real test of blocking is in impeding the progress of the man who does not have the ball. A player can be watching the ball like a hawk and still block, and he can have his back to the ball with no attempt to play it, but in no way impeding the progress of a player who does not have the ball and not be

G  
A  
2 B

1

G—goal. 1 is making a free throw. 2 is making a follow up. A and B are defense men

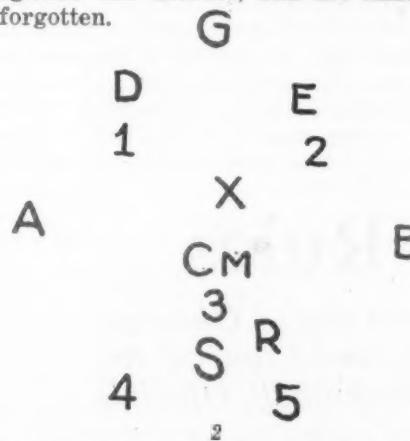
1 drops the ball dead against the bank board just to the left of the brace, so that an attempt will miss and the ball will roll off the rim of the basket over A's head. 2 goes in over A and pushes the ball back in for two points. This is illegal because 1 does not try to make his shot, but no official can call it. This is bad coaching tactics, I believe

blocking. He does not have to make bodily contact to impede progress.

The turn pivot generally resulted in blocking and oftener than not in bodily contact blocking. The rule on blocking should be made more definite with explanatory notes or rulings.

One other phase of basketball that is coming more and more into play to the detriment of the game, is stalling. This is an evil and should be eliminated. The game needs a rule on it to the effect that the team behind must force the play or suffer a free throw against it. In case of tie the team with the ball should be compelled to try to score. There isn't much of a game element in stalling and the public dislikes it exceedingly. The dribble, in my opinion, aids team play and game development and provides a thrill at times, develops the individual, and make a triple threat basketball offense possible in carefully planned and accurately executed organized plays.

The Five Man Position Defense, discussed in the October ATHLETIC JOURNAL stopped every offense so completely that basketball became a defensive game largely. Still the attendance increased because the crowds always enjoyed a game that baffled the opponents. Team play, too, is in evidence in the five man defense scheme and this was a rarity. The offense was neglected although several systems beat their wings impotently against this defense, and are almost forgotten.



This is another bad play or system of play. It hurts the individual, the game and the official. It is the dribble pivot. 3 has dribbled to position in front of C with 4 and 5 trailing. 3 pivots and turns to about spot M handing 4 the ball at R after faking to 5 at S. 3 turns pivots clear on around and past C to X, where he receives the pass back from 4. 3 now plays dribble pivot against D with 1 and 2 as trailers. Nine times out of ten 3 fouls C and D, but if the referee calls it, the team's game is spoiled.

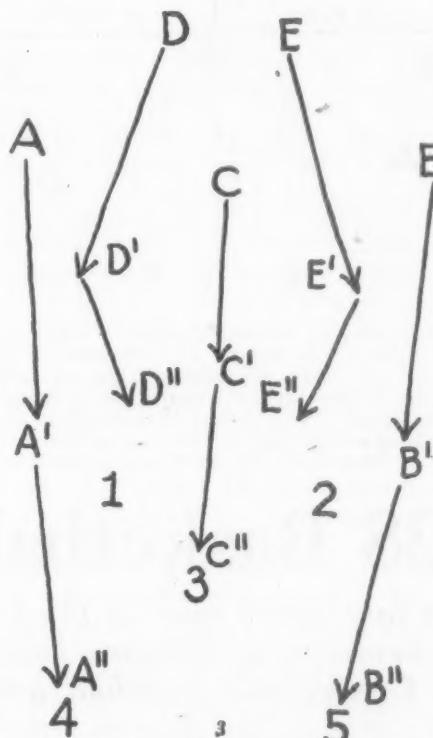
On the pivot dribble game 3 would receive a pass from 4 or 5 with his back to C. 3 turns pivots and dribbles, and is coached to pivot past C before starting his dribble, which is traveling. Very few officials call this and consequently C must hold 3. This is the play that caused so much talk last spring.

The third objective of this game is to build a play strategy that will attract crowds because of its deception, cleverness and clean ball playing tactics by all five of the men. Such a game is coming into practice and will put basketball over in great style.

This is a new offense devised by the writer two years ago. I have entitled it TRIPLE THREAT OFFENSE. Plays are devised to go through or over the front line of a five man defense and shooting is practiced from the least guarded court positions, fifteen to thirty feet out from the basket clear across the floor. After shooting the ball from these spots and succeeding in making some of them, the guards will be coming out to bother the shooter and then the pass back to the forward for a close-up behind his guard is achieved.

The triple threat means exactly what the two words imply. The man with the ball passes, dribbles or shoots and regardless of which one he does, he fakes.

G



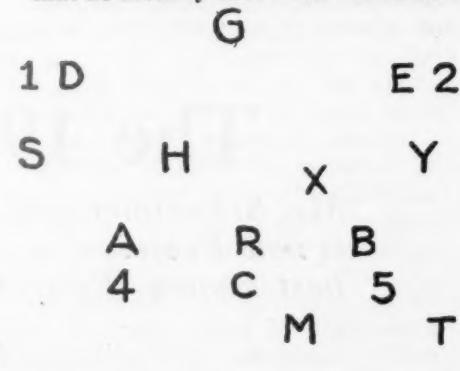
1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are stalling. A, B, C, D and E team is behind and must force the play. They assume position D', E', A', C' as they advance. Then A' and B' rush and drive hard upon 4 and 5 respectively; C' rushes 3 according to 3's value and position in the stall. D' and E' rush 1 and 2 respectively and respectfully. Position must be maintained by D and E and also C. A and B must take the chances. They can recover position in time. The position principle is recognized here and no attention is paid to trading opponents. Each man gets desired position on particular opponent and keeps that position on that opponent. This is a very effective method of forcing play. If the offense is behind or if the score is a tie I suggest that the offense must try to score under the penalty of a free throw award to the defense

This brings out and develops the individual to the fullest extent. Every coach, official, critic and patron of basketball desires the utmost good to the individual player. This is one of the great objectives striven for. There is a real educational value in this game to the individual. Alertness, quick-thinking, decision; a good eye; sound judgment in ever occurring emergencies; self-control under fire and high tension; these are the character building qualities of basketball. To this end play should not be haphazard or slipshod, and yet ninety per cent of the offense play in the country at large is based upon speed. Continuous speed means many mistakes, and these mistakes generally take the form of bad passes.

Bad passes lose basketball games; the individual develops an inferiority complex and the morale of the squad is lowered. Speed and the mania for more speed are the root of most basketball evils. Hurry begets worry, and haste makes waste in basketball play; waste in energy uselessly spent and high school boys burnt out before arriving in college.

Triple threat basketball cures this speed mania. It is the stop-look-and-listen signal. The individual fakes a pass and shoots; fakes a shot and passes; fakes a bounce pass and dribbles; fakes and dribbles and bounces a pass; he fakes with pivots and he fakes with his hands.

There is not more than one play in ten in any game that the player can not fake and then make his play. There is not more than one in ten that he actually does fake. If he looks



3

Triple Threat Offense Play. 3 has the ball and 1, 2, 4 and 5 force D, E, A and B into above positions. 3 dribbles to M and passes to 5, who passes back to 3 at M. Now 3 fakes a pass to 1 or 2 as 4 moves into R position behind C but not touching him. 1 moves up to S and 3 passes the ball to 5 at T. 2 now makes a quick break up to Y after faking a drive toward G, his basket. 5 at T passes 2 ball at Y and 3 has gone to X, where 2 passes him the ball. 2 pivots from Y out and back toward his original position; 1 does likewise; 4 goes from R to H and 3 at X is ready for a triple threat continuation of play

before he leaps every time, he will become cool and reliable as well as expert in his play, and he will know what he is doing and why.

After four years in college this player can coach a team creditably. He never becomes a mechanical performer because he is keen on matching wits with opponents. For the same reason he will never become stale. Most staleness results from the deadly monotony of everyday grind that is the same standardized performance ad infinitum. The coach always becomes stale before his player does and staleness is contagious producing an epidemic.

The five man position defense, with interchangeable opponents principle applied properly and the advancing scheme tried to eliminate stalling, cured the defense evils; the triple threat offense will cure the offense evils; not only for the individual but for the team. Both of these systems require teamwork. They are team ideas and all five members must work together. This may be difficult but when done the results are almost perfectly satisfactory. Individual excellence coupled with maximum team action is an ideal combination.

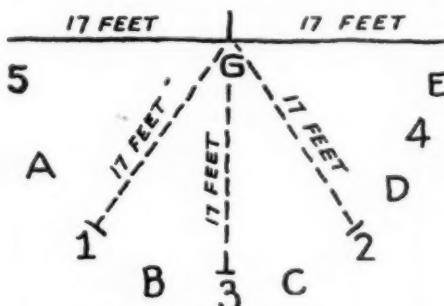
Purely mechanical play and technical rules do not aid any in game development. There is one play that features the game that should be changed. I refer to the free throw. The present rule puts the free thrower in a circle on a line and he may try as he pleases. This is just a mechanical play, for the most part uninteresting to the spectators, requiring no cleverness on the part of the player and possessing no team value whatever.

Concentration on the try and attention to details are requisites of good free throwing, but few will practice without grumbling and those few get careless in this practice. Since the aim of the rulemakers is to make the game interesting and virile without roughness or unsportsmanlike tactics and conduct, I suggest the free throw rule be changed for the betterment of the game. The following changes would help in my opinion: Abolish the lanes, circle and free throw line now used for the free throw and instead describe an arc-half circle from a point in the center of the end line as the center with a seventeen foot radius out on the court. The man fouled would then be allowed to try from any point outside this arc and he could be moving or standing still. He would be allowed to receive a pass or to dribble with all rules in effect and the same time allowed on the attempt as in the existing rule. While shooting or preparing to shoot no opponent could guard the free

thrower, but after the ball leaves the shooter's hands any opponent may intercept and any player of shooter's team may play a follow up for two points. No player of either team may be inside the arc until after the ball leaves the shooter's hands, but after that the play is the same as any other. This rule would not only make the game more interesting but it would relieve the coach of the burden of special free throw practice for ten or twenty men, for which he has no time and for which the men have no inclination.

In the new way, goal shooting, follow-ups and guarding or intercepting off the bankboard could be practiced together and even occasional passing, receiving, dribbling and faking could be practiced.

Finally, the greatest of all objectives to be attained in and for basketball is to have the game recognized by faculties as possessing real educational values. Athletic games such as basketball are not mere physique builders. They are much more than that and least of all valuable from a physical standpoint. A good basketball player must learn many lessons of head and heart and know how to put those lessons into practice. A player's hands and feet do the things his brain or mind commands and in the manner and spirit his heart or soul impulse actuates. It does not require a strong bulk of anatomy to play basketball, but a smart mentality and a love for the sport. Basketball may help to develop a fine pair of lungs, but other exercises are better for this purpose. Basketball teaches a young man to think, feel and act right. The game builds character.



*I is making a free throw under the suggested new rule. All players are 17 ft. away when the ball leaves I's hands. Then all may play it under the rules applied to field goal shooting. I may dribble unmolested to the above position or catch the pass unmolested. This makes fine daily practice, too*

## The 1928 Basketball Rules

*Mr. Schommer was a four sport man at the University of Chicago, is now Professor of Chemistry at Armour Institute and is one of the best known Western Conference Football and Basketball Officials*

*By John J. Schommer*

THE essential thing for any job of officiating is to know the rules and be up on all sorts of hypothetical cases. The latter develops reasoning and greatly aids in administering ultra technical questions.

Before starting a game of basketball the referee should inspect all equipment, that is he should see that the gun is loaded and that a horn is at hand; he should instruct timers when the pistol doesn't shoot, to start out immediately on the floor to

attract the attention of the officials. When the time is up, the timers should immediately note the position of the ball, that is, they should note whether a player has it in his hands or whether the ball is in the air. Some very bitter controversies might have been avoided in the past had these precautions been taken. The watch should be looked at to be sure that it is wound up. The baskets should be inspected so that they are not slanting down or up. Last season a game had to be stopped to adjust a badly tilted

basket. The referee should inspect the ball to be sure a "dud" has not been injected into the game. He should instruct the scorers to stop the game when they disagree on the count. The officials may be able to contribute testimony that will correct an error which if delayed longer may become greater.

In tossing up a ball between two players the referee is responsible for the jumpers while the umpire should have all of the other eight men in his vision. What these other eight men

did in times past is responsible for the introduction of an umpire into the game.

The two officials should cooperate in such a manner that both actually appear to be refereeing. Each should stay on one side of the court and stay out of the playing space as much as possible to avoid possible interference with the players. Each should be held directly responsible for fouls occurring on their respective sides. And each should receive the same compensation. Both officials whenever possible should blow their whistles when a foul is committed. This makes the decision emphatic and leaves but little doubt, except in the minds of intense partisans, that a foul has been committed.

The officials should be careful not to anticipate fouls or violations as in the case of double dribbles, out of bounds or collisions. They should wait until the infraction of the rule has occurred. Better to be a bit slow on the whistle than too fast. The fouls should not be called in a manner smacking of a policeman catching a sneak thief, but in a kindly yet businesslike way. The player's confidence should be won for if they dislike an official it affects their playing. They have enough to think about without the added worry of "whistle blowers."

Some of the more important changes in the rules for 1927-28 are as follows:

Rule 5, Section 6, refers to the elimination of numbers one and two for players. It is urged not to use them because of confusion of signalling by officials to scorers by use of fingers. One or two fingers held up was confusing when players involved were numbered one and two. The timers didn't know if number one made a foul calling for two throws or whether number two made a foul calling for one throw.

Rule 6, Section 6, gives the definition by question eight of what is "withholding the ball from play," i. e., "when a player ceases to attempt to score or advance the ball to a scoring position." This clarifies a situation arising on "courtesy time out."

The "courtesy time out" of Rule 6, Section 6, now permits the asking of team B (defensive) if they wish time out for their injured player when team A (offensive) purposely withholds the ball from play through courtesy for this request. Our Conference interpretation says the play must go to completion irrespective of "B" injured player or players. Completion in the "Big Ten" means until "B" can gain control of the ball, make a held ball or the ball goes out of

bounds or a shot for the goal is taken by "A." Of course, "A" is not forced to a courtesy time out and it will probably only be used in extreme cases for an apparent unconscious player. If the official inadvertently calls time out for "B" at "B's" request due to "B's" injury when "A" has possession of the ball, a technical foul must be called on "B." This technical foul, as all technical fouls, may be thrown by any member of the offended team.

Rule 6, Section 13, gives the referee authority to designate the timekeeper when the two disagree in the handling of the watch. These squabbles have become more frequent of late years due to the evenly matched teams when seconds mean baskets. In the Conference a competent paid timer now is provided for and is picked by the home team. The visiting team will pick the assistant.

Rule 8, Section 5, eliminates whistle blowing on "toss-ups" except at the beginning of a period and after time out.

Rule 11, Section 1, demands that time be taken out on all fouls at the instant the foul is called. When a technical or double foul has been called the ball after the try or "tries" must be tossed up at the center, time going in with the "toss up."

When a personal foul is called the ball must be placed at the disposal of the free thrower, for the free throw, or, for the last free throw when a multiple free throw is awarded. Time now goes in by signal from the referee (Big Ten Ruling).

Rule 11, Section 3, "When the ball is in play and in the possession of a player when 'time out' is called, that player puts the ball in play from out of bounds when play is resumed." This is the logical thing to do. Formerly the ball was tossed up at the spot where blown dead, between the player having possession and his opponent. The ball undoubtedly must be put in play as in the manner for violation of running, i. e., out at the sides and not at the ends.

Rule 14, Section 10. Last year there was a little confusion regarding a dribbler shooting for a goal, recovering and dribbling again. The new rule says "When a player dribbles and throws for goal he may recover the ball and dribble again after the ball has touched the basket or backboard." Also, "If the ball is batted out of the hands of a player who has completed a dribble, the player may dribble again." These two new additions amplify Rule 14, Section 10.

Rule 14, Section 10, applying to sections 8, 9 and 10. There is a note which says "If the offending player

has the ball he should pass it immediately to the opponent indicated by the official." The new addition to the rules states "The player who has the ball should pass it immediately to the player indicated by the official who called the violation." The Western Conference amended this by adding the phrase "or to the nearest official." This gives a player two choices. He may give the ball to his opponents or to the nearest official. The Conference has the following to say regarding this pass. "The ball may be passed or rolled but if deliberately passed inaccurately or thrown so forcefully as to cause inaccurate handling of the ball a foul shall be called on the player for delaying the game and a free throw awarded."

Rule 15, Section 1, Note. "On a jump ball, if the ball drops without being tapped by either jumper, it is to be tossed up again even though one player catches it before it reaches the floor." No foul is to be called for this catching the ball. However, if the player deliberately jumps up and catches the ball a technical foul is to be called.

Question No. 37, page 27, applying to Rule 7, Section 10, was changed by the Big Ten. The question is:—"If a player while holding the ball touches it to the floor one or more times, has he dribbled? A—No. The Conference says "Yes" instead of the "No" in the rules book, because it was agreed the "Yes" will ease the work of the official and of the defense for the dribble and will tend to lessen individual play.

Question 57 refers to passing the ball in bounds by a player out of bounds. He may not step on the boundary line. However, due allowance must be made in his favor when the space out of bounds is limited.

Question 59 gives the definition of what is kicking the ball? "Kicking the ball is striking it with the knee or any part of the leg or foot below the knee."

Question 18, Rule 7, Section 1. To this has been added by Conference interpretation the following: "When the ball strikes the net below the rim without having first fallen through, and is then carried upon or by the net over the rim to fall through, the goal shall not count, and the ball shall go to the defensive team out of bounds on the end line." This interpretation is the result of the Illinois-Michigan controversy when with about fifteen seconds to go for the end of the game and the score one point difference such an occurrence happened.

In no game that is played does an official play such an important part

as he does in basketball. The game without doubt is harder on his mentality and physical capacities than any other. He is constantly on the move. Although he may be physically exhausted near the end of the game and his nervous system almost shattered by the uncomplimentary remarks of frenzied coaches and unsportsman-like partisans, he must administer a game where swift judgment is required as in no other sport. Judgment! How the officials dislike the word. In law the jury weighs the decision calmly sometimes for weeks, then renders its decision. There the judge administers the law and penalty sometimes after weeks of thought. But the official is the jury and the judge and must decide in the twinkling of an eye.

To aid the official's cases of judgment the Conference has gone on record in an attempt to define or rather give a concrete background from which to legislate on many of the mooted questions that come up on running, guarding from the rear, etc. Did the dribbler charge or did

his opponent block and what constitutes blocking a player who does not have the ball?

These more important questions that come up in every game will be discussed.

For years the rules have said, "mere shifting of feet in the back-field, which does not affect the play by a man in possession of the ball, is not a violation," also "stopping as soon as possible" by a player catching a ball on the dead run is not a violation. Yet these rules together with the pivot have caused more oratory and more bitter feeling than possibly any others. The Conference last year agreed "That traveling or illegal motion of any kind be strictly called such, regardless of the position of the player on the court." This was reaffirmed again this year (1927-1928).

Guarding from the rear is legitimate but difficult, without committing a foul. This case of judgment also has caused many heartaches. In the situation where an offensive man is dribbling towards the goal or is about

to shoot for goal, the following was ruled by the Conference: (a) That the defensive player may slap, or place his hand upon, the ball, from a position behind the player in possession of it, provided no contact occurs between the guarding hand and the arms or body of the man in possession of the ball. Contact with the fingers only of the man in possession of the ball is permissible, as where a guarding hand is slapped down upon a ball held by an opponent.

In the situation of the dribbler above described (b), it is a foul for the defensive player to place his hand or arm on or over the shoulder of the player dribbling in or about to shoot and thus make contact with him, whether or not the defensive man plays the ball. The Conference requests the most rigid enforcement of this interpretation. Further, any attempt on the ball, by the defensive player, must not be made from above or over the shoulder.

Guarding a pivoter—when a man pivots while in possession of the ball

(Continued on page 43)

## Basketball Defense

By C. S. Edmundson

HOW often in past years we have heard our friends, in discussing different automobiles, make the statement, I wouldn't have this car or I wouldn't have that one. Just at present the public seems to more readily agree that you are apt to get about what you pay for, that all makes are quite serviceable on the whole though here and there an individual lemon may make its appearance.

Two years ago I traded in an old car on a new one of the same make. The first time I took it to a service station the gentleman in charge told me that this new model was about the worst thing on the market. His statement irritated me at the time and gave me some concern too. Subsequent months have proven his statement to have been incorrect.

Much has been said in recent years by writers about the various types of defense and some have left the impression that unless a certain particular style is used the team will look like a bad wreck. Of all the types the "man for man" seems to be accused of carrying the greatest knock. However, as I travel around this particular section of the country I find that coaches are getting their "money" out of this type of machine at par.

Some of the charges made against the man for man game are: (1) it is old fashioned, (2) it is rough, (3) the men are easily blocked off, (4) the men are apt to be slow in getting back down the floor into defensive territory, and (5) that once an offensive player gets past, a foul is quite apt to follow when a shot is attempted.

The first statement that this style is old fashioned is not a reason at all. It is merely a statement of truth. Walking is equally old fashioned yet it is just as beneficial as ever it was. I suspect many young coaches of dropping this style because they do not wish to be considered a back number.

A team can guard with this type of defense just as cleanly as with any other. The rules state that defensive men must keep their hands off opponents and that basket ball is not a game of body contact. If men are properly coached in defensive technique, roughness will be reduced to a minimum and particularly so if the referees are efficient and constant in their work.

The charge that blocking is easier perhaps has more merit. However, if the style of defense is known in advance, blocking plays may be prepared for any system. The defensive men must of course have lots of prac-

tice in changing men when they see the block coming up. The more a team blocks the more alert the men on defense become. They are much more apt to get caught on an occasional block than they are when the threat is constant.

It is probably true that men loaf some in getting back down the floor for defense when the men for whom they are responsible are still in the back court. It does take a good deal of work on the part of the coach to get them back quickly.

There is merit, too, in the statement that once a player on offense gets past his defensive man a foul calling for a double shot frequently occurs. This depends upon circumstances. If there is another defensive player in the back court behind these men, these two defensive players should exchange men just as they should do in case of a block. In case there is not, there is nothing left for the defensive player in question to do but sprint for the basket attempting to get ahead before he makes his effort to stop the play. This situation may arise with any type of defense especially if the opponents are stalling with the ball in the back court.

Now what are some of the merits of the "old fashioned" defense?

Every player has some peculiar characteristics of his own which are more or less effective. The defensive player who spends most of his time against him will learn these facts early in the game and how to meet these tactics.

There has seldom been a team that I have coached that was composed of men of equal height nor yet composed of men with equal defensive ability. A tall man will find it easier to score on a short one and perhaps by the

same token the tall man may find himself in difficulty if confronted by some short and speedy "flea." Most teams have some outstanding scorer or a man who is especially apt in handling the ball on the floor. If these facts are known before the game, and they usually are, the defense can well be arranged to meet these situations. Many coaches who otherwise prefer the later models of defensive play find it necessary to resort to the man to man defense when the team is behind

and the opponents are stalling in the back court.

Men who are by nature poor defensive players will often take more pride in this part of their game and leave less of the work to their team mates upon whom they may like to throw the less glorious work. It is very definite in its demands, mistakes are easy to check, while the score book at the end of a game or a season will tell two stories in place of one.

## Winning Basketball Games by Making Fewer Fouls

By Dr. Forrest C. Allen

THE common conception among coaches is that clever plays are the major attributes of a championship team. Much time, as necessarily needs be, is spent in the drilling and perfecting of fundamental complex offensive sorties, calculated to lead the defensive team off at a tangent. Then, by a well-timed thrust, the offensive aggregation will drive to a well deserved field goal.

Few coaches believe strongly enough in the theory of winning games by making fewer fouls than their opponents. Years ago in teaching the members of the Haskell Indian Team of Lawrence, Kansas, the fine points of the game, a situation came to me that I have never forgotten. I explained to the Indian boys that, in our great effort to secure the ball, sometimes our co-ordination was bad. When we reached for the ball, we sometimes grabbed or struck our opponents' arms, thereby causing a foul. I explained to the Indian boys that the referee called this misapplied effort a *foul* but in reality it was just a *mistake*. The Indian boys of course had not intended to grab the arms of their opponents. They wished most to procure the ball—the object of their play.

Some three months after this primary bit of instruction a situation arose which convinced me of the efficacy of correct pedagogic principles. The Indians were playing the Detroit Athletic Club in the Light Guard Armory. The D. A. C. team had just defeated Yale and, of course, the Indians were eager to register a win over the conquerors of "Old Eli." With but a few minutes left to play and with the Indians leading by a small margin the referee called a foul on our star Indian forward for holding.

As the referee's challenge rang out, "On you, holding," there was a slight lull immediately following the calling of the penalty. Then came the meditative although spontaneous audible Indian reaction, "Humph! I made a mistake." That Indian boy was a real sportsman at heart. He was playing the game for the love of it. Since that time it has been my aim to endeavor to instill a teaching practice whereby fewer fouls are made in fundamental play. Following is a list of some phases of play which may be bettered materially by constant and vigilant coaching:

1. Underarm (straight) undercut at the ball.
2. Bending the knees when guarding an opponent.
3. Moving the feet rapidly with the hands when guarding.
4. Tipping and jumping fouls.
5. Playing the ball, not the man. No blocking.
6. Using the zone game on defense, not the man-to-man style.
7. Charging and hanging on.
8. Unnecessary fouling in the offensive zone.

1. By using the underarm (straight) undercut at the ball a player has the advantage of at least six to eight inches of extension when striking the ball. Again, when the shooter lifts a shot toward the basket, the guard's underarm undercut movement goes with the swing of the goal thrower and no collision of movement results. This act prevents a foul, which so often results when a guard cuts down on the uplifted arms of a player when in the act of shooting. The extended fingers, the hand and the wrist of the underarm-undercutter will often strike the ball cleanly,

thereby driving the ball out of the grasp of the local thrower.

2. Many guards rush in too straight up. By exaggerating the crouch and bending the knees it is easy to slip in under the pivoting trunk of the man with the ball. The guard's face should be kept close in to the side of the opponent so that it will always be easy for him to keep his eyes on the ball.

3. Guards commit many needless fouls by failing to keep their feet moving rapidly with the advancing movement of the forward who has the ball. In the improper guarding position, the guard reaches for the ball and comes to a semi-stationary stop with his feet. Then, when the forward moves on with the ball the guard's holding is the inevitable result; and the contrast between one rapidly moving object and one slowly moving object is quite apparent. Hence, the referee's attention is more forcibly called to this foul than when both players are moving at the same rate of speed.

4. Centers and other players on a tip-off play too often make the common mistake of crowding their jumping opponents with their chests, or else the jumpers drop their free arms lightly but artfully on some part of their opponents' bodies so as to interfere with the jump.

The artful jumper can shift from one position to another in the half-circle, sometimes using the corkscrew jump, especially when his opponent is using the overchest block and jump. In this way, he can present the back-arm and shoulder to his opponent's chest, and offset the advantage that the opponent is trying to gain by this illegal jump. A jumper should watch

(Continued on page 30)

# The ATHLETIC JOURNAL

Nation-Wide Amateur Athletics

VOL. VIII

JANUARY, 1928

No. 5

Published by  
THE ATHLETIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING CO.  
6858 Glenwood Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

JOHN L. GRIFFITH, Editor

## Correcting a Mistake

**I**N the December number of the ATHLETIC JOURNAL in the article on football rules the editor inadvertently said in writing about the Notre Dame-U. S. C. game "There is no reason whatever to doubt that the officials erred in their judgment or in their ruling." Of course it was intended to say that "There is no reason to *believe* that the officials erred," but the mistake was not discovered until the JOURNALS were in the mails. We are glad to correct this mistake.

Professor James Weber Linn in his interesting column in the *Herald and Examiner* suggests "If Major Griffith in his comment, says the exact opposite of what he means, whom shall we get to re-write the football rules?" Those who have had any experience in writing articles, in reading proof or in publishing magazines will testify regarding the difficulty in eliminating mistakes of one sort or another in the final printed pages. This editorial is written not as an alibi for a mistake for which we are responsible, but with two other purposes in mind. First, to suggest that whoever may be designated to write the changes in the football rules will make mistakes. This being true, it is proposed that the Rules Committee send copies of the statement of proposed rules changes to the coaches and officials for their criticism before the rules are published. The men who are responsible for the football coaching and officiating will discover the mistakes, point them out to the committee and the wording of the rules can then be improved before the rules are printed. Second, there has been entirely too much criticism of the football officials this last year for the good of the game. Referring again to the goal line play on Soldiers' Field some coaches of national reputation agreed with the decision of the officials and other coaches whose training and experience qualified them to speak with authority regarding the facts in the play in question saw the play differently from the way it was viewed by the officials. Very few persons who witness a football game are trained observers. That is, they have had neither the training nor experience to enable them to see the many technical points involved in a football play. These coaches referred to above have had such train-

ing and yet they disagreed regarding what happened in this play. If everybody saw things the same way in football games or if it were possible to leave the decisions to the spectators or to take a vote of the players the officials might be dispensed with, but since such procedure is impractical then we must employ officials and what is more important, accept their decisions as final. When the time comes that college men and women are willing to accept the decisions of the officials whether they agree with the decisions or not, the cause of amateur sport will be advanced.

## Sports Promotion

**I**T has been repeatedly demonstrated, at least in the smaller cities and towns, that professional athletics flourish best where amateur athletics have been neglected. Adversely stated, where amateur athletics are properly administered and promoted professional athletics quite generally attract but little attention. If we cannot secure porterhouse or sirloin steak we are forced to be satisfied with round steak, but if we know that good porterhouse is better than good round steak we are not long in making our selection. Of course, there are still some people who do not know that there is anything better than round steak and there are some who prefer professional wrestling, baseball and football because they have never cultivated their tastes to the extent that they can appreciate college wrestling, high school basketball or university football.

Where amateur athletics are properly developed by men who are unselfish in their motives toward sports promotion, the professional promoters, whose chief concern is the amount of money they can make for themselves, usually abandon the field.

Years ago before the colleges had well organized athletic departments the A. A. U. conducted meets and tournaments for undergraduate athletes. These meets were fine, as they gave the track coaches an opportunity to enter their men in well regulated meets. Today the college athletic departments are well organized and the college coaches provide adequate competitive schedules for their athletes. When the colleges enter their men in A. A. U. meets the latter attract considerable public attention, but in the districts where the colleges provide a sufficient number of intercollegiate competitions and do not enter their athletes in outside meets and tournaments, these tournaments are of but little consequence.

Before the high schools were equipped to administer their own interscholastic tournaments the colleges conducted invitation meets. The colleges were qualified to handle these meets since they had large gymnasiums, running tracks and besides, trained officials. Now that the high school men have organized state athletic associations and are employing trained administrators the need of interscholastic meets conducted by the colleges is becoming less and less.

We should have no quarrel with the professional promoters who dominated the local sports field in the days when no one was attempting to promote community amateur athletics, but most persons will agree that community athletics conducted on an amateur

basis for the benefit of all yield better returns than professional athletics conducted for the benefit of the promoters.

Certainly, we should not condemn the A. A. U., which organization in the days of James E. Sullivan organized basketball tournaments and track meets for the benefit of the college athletes. Rather the colleges should say to the A. A. U., "We appreciate the help which you gave us in the days when we were learning to walk, but now that we not only can stand alone but further can run, we will relieve you of the responsibility of further assisting us."

The high school men have no reason for feeling bitter toward the college men who helped develop high school athletics in the days when public school gymnasiums and running tracks were few and far between, but they will have reason to question the motives of the colleges that insist on rendering assistance when assistance is no longer needed. The college administrators will do well if they assume the attitude that they are glad to invite high school boys to compete in school events in the relay meets if the secondary school men so desire it and if not, that they will gladly limit the competitions to college undergraduates. Further, the colleges still have a fine opportunity of offering the secondary school men the use of their college athletic grounds and buildings if the latter wish to accept the favor, but they will find themselves in an embarrassing position if they insist that their tender of assistance be accepted.

### The Minneapolis Journal Philosophizes Regarding Football

**W**e are indebted to the editor of the Minneapolis *Journal* for his suggestions that the money spent for football is not wasted and that the persons who bought football tickets spent their own money and that the matter of spending one's own money is one's own business. It will pay you to read what this writer has written under the heading:

#### FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS FOR FOOTBALL

"That Americans paid fifty million dollars to see college football games this year may worry some good souls who think the money might have been spent in some other way.

"Without doubt, the money might have been better spent. But—and this time also without doubt—the money would not have been better spent.

"Each of these fifty million dollars does double duty. Already it has helped buy a wholesome and thrilling afternoon in the open for some one of the millions of citizens who attended football games this year. And now it is going to help buy the facilities for body-building, mind-cleansing physical exercise for the students who pack our colleges by the hundreds of thousands.

"For this vast sum, fifty million dollars, does not go out of circulation. Save for the salaries paid to coaches and trainers, and expenditures for equipment, transportation and hotel accommodations, the money

goes to expand and maintain the growing athletic plants of the colleges.

"It builds playing fields, gymnasiums, field houses, tennis courts, golf courses, where all students, many of whom never have even touched a football, may share in the conceded benefits of physical training.

"And in building up these facilities, the money furnishes jobs for numerous artisans who otherwise might go without employment.

"Do not think for a minute that fifty million dollars spent for football tickets is fifty million dollars wasted. Indeed, save for expenditures for family upkeep, for individual or communal health, and for church and charity, it is doubtful whether any money is more wisely spent.

"Furthermore, it was the money of those who spent it. Each of them wanted to see a football game and each of them had the price. It was strictly his own business whether he should buy a football ticket, buy something else, or bank the cash. Nobody was forced to buy a ticket against his will. On the other hand, some hundreds of thousands of citizens who wanted to buy seats at the various important games could not get them.

"So there is nothing for even the most confirmed lamenter to moan about in the rapid increase of the country's annual college football bill. Provide enough seats, and the country will gladly double it."

### Responsibility for Observing the Spirit of the Rules Rests on Both Coaches and Officials

**I**T is a generally accepted principle in golf that if a man does not observe the ethics of competition, others will not play with him. In college athletics, it is far too common a practice for a coach to schedule games with an institution whose coach is generally known to teach questionable practices and then to hold the officials responsible for seeing that the games are played both according to the letter and the spirit of the rules. This places entirely too much responsibility on the officials. The football code of ethics decries the practice of using an unfair starting signal, yet it is believed that a certain coach this last fall used a questionable charging system. As a result the officials were blamed for not preventing what was thought to be unfair starting on the part of this man's team. Some institutions continue to schedule games with other institutions whose methods of obtaining athletes is subject to suspicion.

If the colleges and high schools would adopt the golf procedure and play only with those who are known to compete fairly, those whose athletic conduct is below par would then be forced to mend their ways or to schedule their games exclusively with institutions whose standards are of similar character.

The objection that no one wishes to be accused of assuming a "holier than thou" attitude has not forced gentlemen to play golf with those whose sportsmanship is of a low order.

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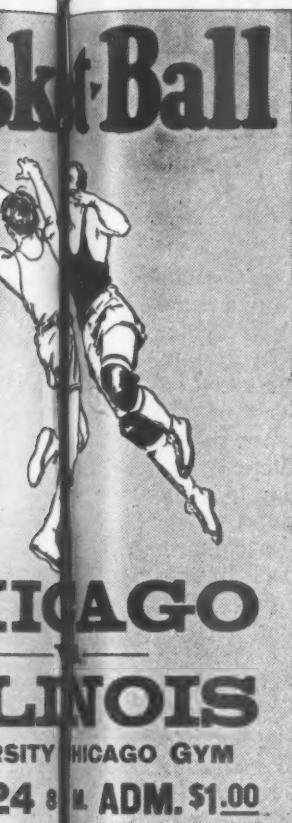
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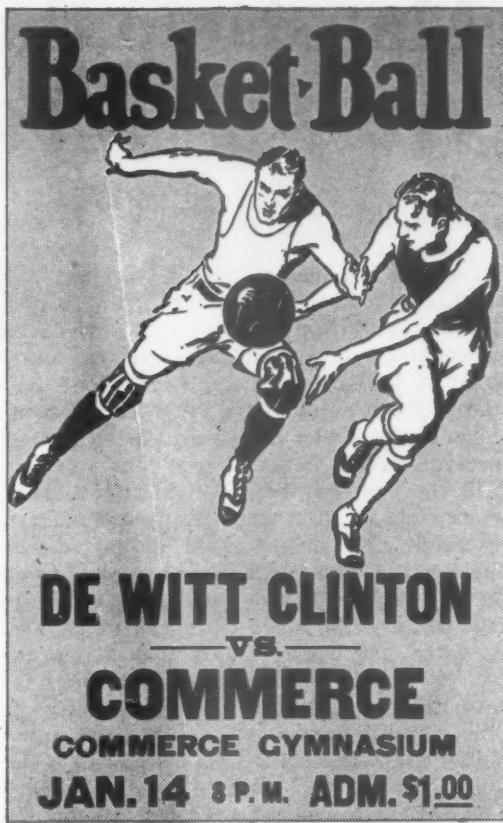
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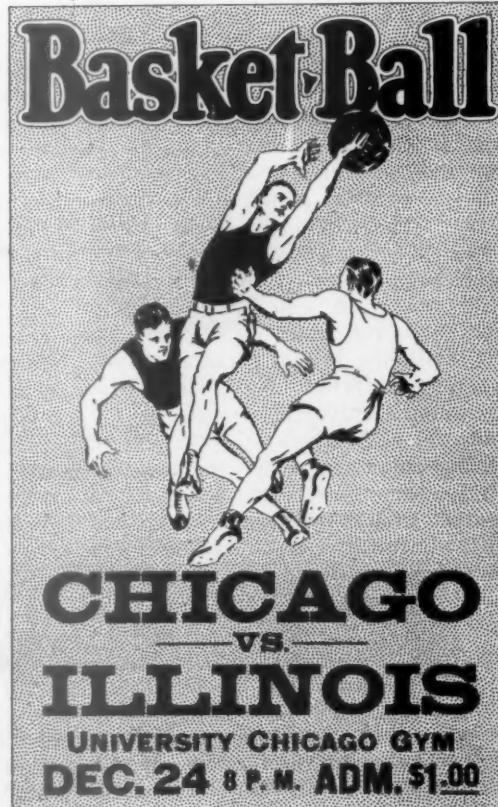
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# How the Colleges May Help the High Schools in Their Athletic Program

By L. L. Forsythe

President, Michigan High School Athletic Association

OUR system of athletics in America is in a state of transition. There may be those who think that we have arrived at a practical embodiment of an ideal system, but to anyone who looks into the changing developments of the past fifteen years and who questions the adequacy and completeness of the philosophy underlying our present athletic activities, or at least its acceptance by the masses, it must be apparent that our system has not fully set—that we are in the midst of developments which will greatly change the total aspect.

We are able to speak with a great deal of justification of the "Ancient Greek system of athletics," and these modern times of the "English system of athletics." To the informed these two expressions recall rather definite schemes persistent in these countries for considerable periods of time—not without modifications to be sure, but with certain well-defined and permanent aspects. These aspects embodied a fundamental ideal. To the Greek that ideal was the harmonious development of the human form,—to the English this ideal was, and is, the development of physical fitness in an atmosphere of gentlemanly sport. These well-recognized ideals established the character, and the characteristics, of each of these systems.

The assertion which I am making with reference to our scheme of things athletic is that there is no outstanding, unifying idea or ideal that has gained universal acceptance and universal embodiment. Naturally, in this new western world, we have developed some new forms and we have modified and refined many of the old. Quite naturally, too, we have developed and modified in a delightfully haphazard way. We have been so busy doing the things that appealed to our fancy that we have done little in analyzing motives. This is, of course, an over-statement, for I do not mean that we have been uncritical of our acts or unmindful of the criticisms of others. What I do mean is that we have been so busy taking the next step ahead that we have not worked out in advance a complete plan by which to build.

One aspect of our American system of athletics has, in my judgment,

come to stay. I refer to the plan of representative teams, coached to ultra-perfection, playing in exhibition before tens of thousands of interested spectators. It is quite probable that this plan cannot be justified on purely logical grounds, but anyone who observes the evidences of human nature both as revealed in the pages of history and in the accounts of present day expression, would be rash, indeed, to venture the opinion that the thrill of seeing the best pitted against the best on equal terms will ever be given up. No, the big game has come to stay. It presents its problems, but their solution does not lie in abolition.

The critics of the gigantic spectacle set up an opposing ideal—the personal participation of the masses. In reality the two propositions are not mutually exclusive, they are supplementary. For my part, I am of the opinion that we should be thankful to the critics of our prevailing system. Instead of doing us a dis-service, they have insisted on a point of view which should never have been neglected. For today, born of their criticisms, there is going up all over the country and at all levels of educational endeavor a demand for the physical education of all. But strangely enough it is the much-maligned stadium and the vast spectacle which it makes possible that is furnishing the means by which, in our colleges, and, to a considerable extent, in our high schools, this wider range of activities is being made possible.

Nearly forty years ago at the famous physical training conference held in Boston, "The outstanding view," according to Prof. Jesse F. Williams<sup>1</sup>, "regarding physical education was that its purpose was corrective rather than developmental . . . . No study was made of the kind of activities boys and girls need for developmental purposes, nor of the uses to which physical activities can be put in the setting up and acquirement of standards of conduct." The result, to use Mr. Williams' phrase, was a "sterilized program" which young men promptly rejected, in so far as they could, for the thrill of games more or less planned and managed to suit their likings. The troublesome mess which followed in the nineties led to the organization of

faculty-supervised leagues, associations, conferences, etc., which have now become nation-wide and reach to all levels of our educational system.

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner." In a very real sense this is true in relation to athletics and physical education; for today it is the despised and neglected games of an earlier day, developed into a comprehensive plan, to which we look for the salvation of the masses of our youth. I speak of physical salvation, but not of that alone, for we have come to see that there is no possibility of saving men by parts. We can hope to succeed only by developing the well-rounded personality, by engaging all of the faculties of the youth,—mind, body, and spirit. It has been said that the battle of Waterloo was won on the athletic fields of Rugby and Eton. Likewise, it has been said that the sterling qualities of American character were developed through the exacting activities of pioneer days. Where may we look, then, for the development of hardy, rugged, dependable American manhood in these days ahead? Certainly not chiefly to the classroom or the laboratory; nor to the discussion group in church or Y. M. C. A. These have their part, but only in the crucible of the playground where youth learns to give and take knocks and smile through the process, is the compound of real manhood fully worked out. The really great opportunity of these days, in the field of education, lies with the men who are directors, coaches, and instructors in athletics and physical education. Are they big enough to see the opportunity and the responsibility, or will they go on, as is so often the case, merely scheming to win games and to bask in the acclaim of the fickle multitude. To the extent they do only the latter the torch will pass to other and worthier hands; for already the<sup>2</sup> call is rising clear and persistent, and will not be denied. An ideal and objective of an athletic system in America is being born and men must be found who will work out that ideal in every aspect and in every situation.

As I said in the beginning, our system of athletics is in a state of transi-

<sup>1</sup>Teachers' College Record, Nov. 1927, p. 114.

Which of these three basketball players would make your team ?

Which of these three basketballs will your team use?

- 1 One man is lively, active and skillful, but he hasn't the stamina to last out a fast game.
- 2 One man has a rugged physique. He can stand the gaff of a full game. But he hasn't the speed, skill or ability of the first man.
- 3 One man plays as well as the first man. And he is stronger and able to take more punishment than the second man. He combines the advantages of the first two men, and has none of their disadvantages.

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tion, but it is beginning to emerge from the confusion of the past into the embodiment of a clear-cut ideal—physical fitness for all, at all ages, combined with the spirit of manly sport. The future will continue to see big games and enjoy them, but, on the other hand, only the incapacitated will be willing to admit that they have no interest in physical play for themselves. This, it must be apparent, will bring about a new emphasis on those games that will carry over into the years of adult life. Such games as hockey, swimming, tennis, playground ball, and golf are just about to write into the history of athletics a chapter of such interest and significance as few of us realize.

I have been asked to point out ways in which you men of the colleges can help us of the high schools, especially when you come to talk to our students or their parents. I have been at pains to develop a point of view in order that I might effectively undertake this more definite task. For I do not recognize any difference in the kind of problems confronting you and us. It is merely a matter of intensity and time relation. Our problems, both in the case of the individual and the mass, soon become yours; and according as we effectively meet our problems, do you find yours simplified and your opportunities for further progress enlarged.

It has been a matter of only a few years since representatives of state high school athletic associations began to confer about their common problems. It is doubtless known to you that this movement began right here in Chicago, and that it has now become national in scope. At one time athletics within the states were only loosely organized and the high schools were glad to have colleges provide opportunities for state-wide competition, but with the development of strong, self-conscious, and self-respecting state managements within the associations themselves, state organizations have come to place less dependence on the college management and to take over complete control. Every year now sees several states employing state managers for the first time, and developing a strong, independent control. Anyone who knows the history of this movement recognizes that these organizations are promoting a much finer type of athlete and a more wholesome spirit of sportsmanship than we have ever had before. And the same process is going on nationally which has given us our strong state associations. Within a few years we are almost certain to see a corresponding national control of high school athletic events

by high school management. I do not know how soon to expect it, but I know it is inevitable. This is not in any sense a criticism of what colleges have done in this field; it is merely a natural result of our growing up.

Now representatives of college athletics will do the high schools, and, indirectly, themselves, great good by recognizing the splendid work that is being done by these state associations. Even though the high schools may make some mistakes as they feel their way along, it is altogether wholesome that they tackle their own problems. It will mean a much higher type of sportsmanship and a more widely realized athletic ideal in the long run, and that is what we all want.

Right here it seems fitting to say that physical education departments that are training directors and coaches to go out into our high schools ought to give those men a very definite and complete introduction to the policies and rules of their state association. Such information will be of tremendous value to these men and it will save the high school managers of the several states from much trouble. In fact, I am persuaded that any teacher-training institution which fails to acquaint either prospective principals or physical education men with the most approved ways of managing high school athletics is missing one of its finest opportunities. There is enough material available to merit not less than a month's study by any such group.

When the college coach comes to my town to talk to my high school students or their parents, I want him to put sportsmanship first and athletic ability second. I want him to praise scholarship among athletes as among all men, and to raise over all the standard of clean living. In the dull routine of daily contacts with these boys, we high school principals, and even our coaches, find it hard to keep the eyes of youth on these higher things. The college coach who speaks to them can help us greatly.

I want him, too, to praise the function of amateur sport in the world today, to point out that amateur sport looks toward the participation of the many, where professional sport promotes the extreme training of the few, and to make it clear that the realization of our ideal in athletics is inextricably bound up with the promotion of amateurism.

Unfortunately, the issues of amateurism seem to be difficult of definition and difficult of administration. We know the colleges have had their troubles here. As for us of the high schools, we have too; one state association is out of our field today be-

cause it regards the problem of amateurism as beyond its power to control. But surely the amateur ideal which puts the game above all else can be insisted on and its major implications promoted and adhered to.

Just here it may not be amiss to say that sometimes even colleges have offended against the ideal of amateurism in the prizes they have offered to high school athletes. Fortunately that day is past among institutions that see the problem in the large. Colleges have come to see that they must cooperate fully with the efforts of state high school associations to keep pre-college athletics above the taint of mercenary motives. To be sure rumors sometimes get abroad that promising athletes are offered improper inducements to enter certain colleges. The existence of such rumors is a misfortune; but, to the extent that they have a basis in fact, it is a calamity.

Coaches usually have an easy time when they are engaged to come to our communities and talk; for they are generally called in to help celebrate with a victorious team. On such occasions it is easy to say pleasing things, but not always so pleasing to say wise things. But when the flood tide of good feeling is in, that is just the time to drive home lessons about clean sport, clean living, and high ideals,—that is just the time to talk about the lean year that may be only a twelve-month away. All of us, all the time, and everywhere must do what we can to rid our schools and colleges of this blasting sentiment which makes a winning team always synonymous with coaching success. The desire to win is a fundamental urge, but it must be tempered according to the rules of the game exactly as we must control the instinct to possess. There is much that can be done by itinerant college speakers to give our provincial communities a more wholesome view of this problem.

Another ideal which is often neglected in high school contests is the ultimate physical welfare of the individual player. Too often the good of this individual player is sacrificed for life in order that the eager crowd may be satisfied, or the honor of the school upheld by victory, or the reputation of the coach enhanced. These are tawdry returns for such a sacrifice. Everywhere the ultimate welfare of the boy must be put first. And to secure this result the crowd must learn self-denial, the school self-control, and the coach, personal sacrifice. Physical and medical examinations should everywhere be insisted upon. We in Michigan make such a

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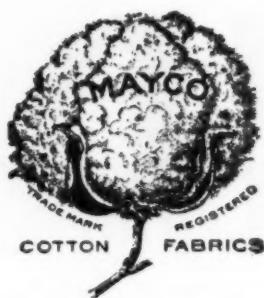
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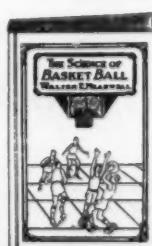
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requirement, probably other state associations do also. But you men who speak to our community groups can help us by commanding such precautions.

The high schools are under great obligation to the college, not only for the system of athletic activities which they have handed on to us, but for the generous attitude of helpfulness and cooperation which they have shown. We high school men appreciate the fine way in which you have taken us into your conference. These opportunities of talking over our mutual problems have been very helpful to us. Even if we have not done you any good, we hope that you will have your reward in the realization that you have done us a great service.

## Winning Basketball Games by Making Fewer Fouls

(Continued from page 21)

the ball at all times. He must play the ball and never his opponent.

On the tip-off, a player should tip the ball up and over. In this play, one should never try to slap the ball, as this causes a partial flexion of the forearm and wrist, and thereby, a sacrifice of several inches of needed reach.

5. The basketball code emphasizes the necessity of playing the ball, not the man. Yet many of our so-called best systems of basketball coaching are predicated on the theory that it is absolutely necessary to play the *man* and not the *ball*. When a coach instructs his team to *stick* to a certain star, even if it is necessary to put two men on him, it is no wonder that many players form an opinion that it is much better to foul an opponent than to give him a chance at the basket under close but legitimate guarding. The old army practice of "rock 'em and sock 'em" seems to gain favor with a certain type of coach who believes in intimidation rather than in the excellency of technique.

Certain styles of play in colleges are built primarily on the blocking principle. For instance, a forward on team A charges into a guard on team B, thereby releasing an opponent on team A for a drive into the basket and a try for goal. It is possible to eliminate 90 per cent of the contact blocking by resorting to a zone game on defense rather than the man-to-man style.

6. In the zone style of defense, each player has a certain territory for which he is responsible. These individual territories are fourteen-foot circles around each player. The play-

ers are responsible for this territory between their zones and the side lines as well as for the corners of the court nearest their zones. It is assumed that an opponent shall be covered by the player into whose territory he first enters, until the opponent has entered another zone. The easiest way to visualize the modus operandi of this zone defense is to imagine that the defensive men are attached to each other in their usual set five-man defensive positions by a strong elastic band—the tension of which, with certain reservations, permits a shifting movement of the defense into a lopsided formation. Imagine now, that each player is fastened to this band so that he cannot roll or slip along it. When one player moves, the resultant direction of the others is fixed.

This defensive band swaying back and forth as the tide of offense surges against it permits every man on defense to play the ball and not the man. This plan incorporates six of the nine Principles of War, namely:

1. The Principle of the Economy of Force.
2. The Principle of the Mass.
3. The Principle of Movement.
4. The Principle of Security.
5. The Principle of Simplicity.
6. The Principle of Co-operation.

It is also an energy saver.

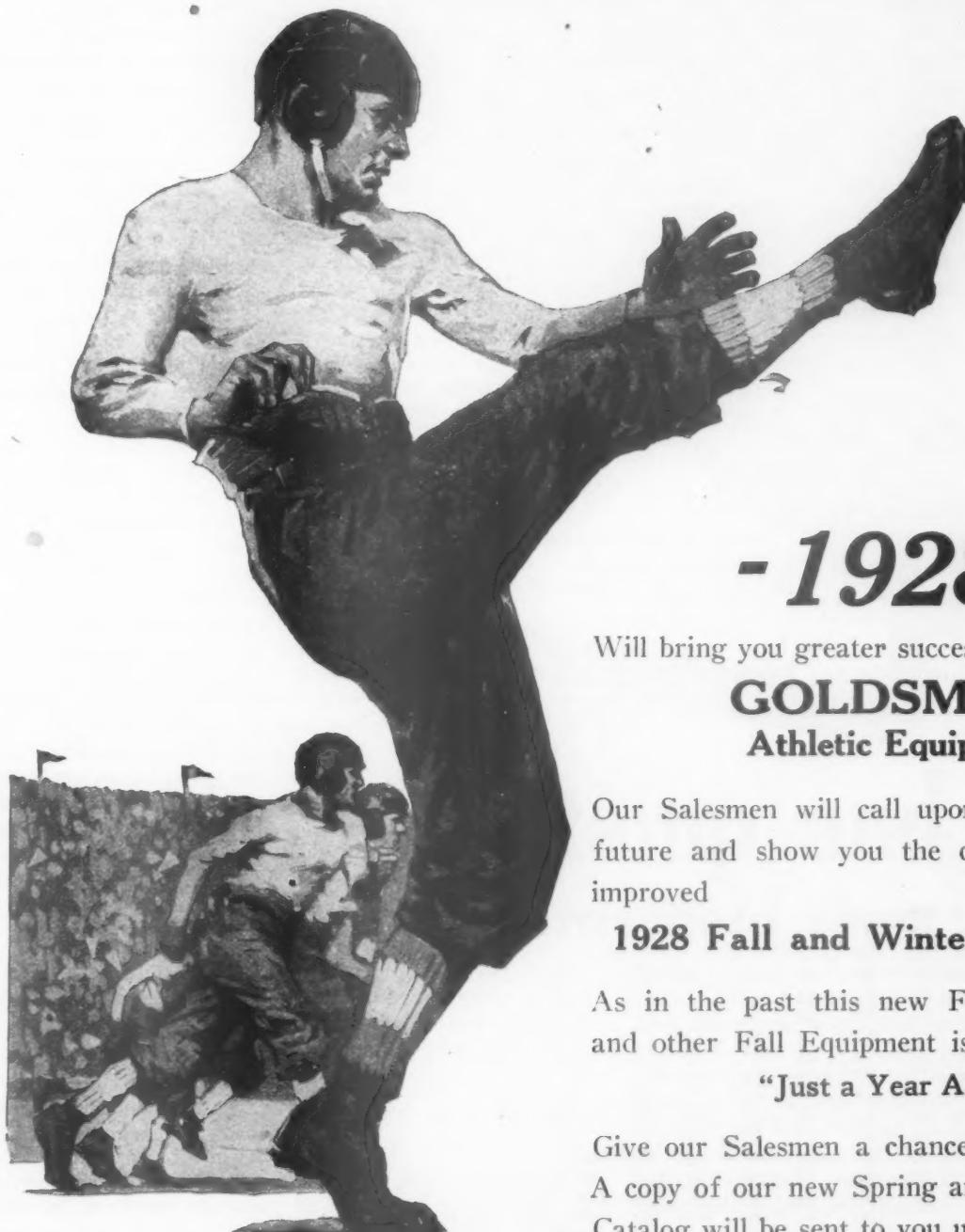
7. In no game is footwork more at a premium. Every basketball aspirant should take boxing lessons. Many players rush for an opponent and in their endeavor to secure the ball are thrown off their balance. When a player has failed to recover his equilibrium after a charge for an opponent he must hold on to save himself from falling. With correct footwork this fault would be easily overcome.

Skipping the rope, indulging in the full squat, practicing the dip and push-up on the fingers and toes daily will give strength and agility to the body mechanism, which will aid greatly in overcoming this fault of incorrect footwork and loss of balance. Confidence is a big asset to a player. This confidence can be enhanced by a reassurance of one's own physical fitness.

8. I know of no one more unpopular than the chap who fouls unnecessarily in his own offensive zone after his opponents have procured possession of the ball. Many players, after seeing that play has relaxed in their area, fail to cover-back as they should, and thus make needless fouls. Whether such inert players are lazy or simply chagrined, I cannot say. But there are many such fouls committed in almost every game.

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# Athletics in Secondary Schools

By Leonard Brodnax Plummer,

Assistant Athletic Director and Director of Junior Athletics at the New Mexico Military Institute

(Continued from the December issue)

**Weight.**—Several divisions are possible on a weight basis. The figures may be determined to meet local conditions. There are two possible plans for using these figures. One is not to have anyone on the team over a given weight. The other way is to have an average team weight. The first plan is perhaps the better as it is fairer and less apt to cause trouble. Under the second plan it is somewhat difficult always to maintain the average when substitutions are made. The following scale is suggested as the maximum figures for several groups: 115 lbs., 125 lbs., and 135 lbs. Competition within each group will be determined as suggested above. There are other divisions. A two-weight classification is lightweights and heavyweights; a three-weight classification, 100 lbs., 125 lbs., and unlimited; a five-weight classification, 80 lbs., 95 lbs., 110 lbs., 125 lbs., and unlimited.<sup>54</sup>

Combination Age, Height, Weight.

—It is rather uncertain to adopt a straight age, height, or weight classification for numerous difficulties will arise. For example, a fifteen year old boy might weigh 265 pounds. He would certainly be out of his class on a team that was limited to age only. On the other hand it would be expecting too much of a 265 pound, fifteen year old boy to ask him to compete in a 265 pound class. Hence a combination of age, height, weight, and even class in school is sometimes necessary. Tulsa, Oklahoma, uses the following formula for determining the classes of senior high school boys: four times the age in years, plus half the weight in pounds, plus the height in inches. They have four divisions with the following indexes: Class A—over 198; Class B—from 192 to 198; Class C—from 182 to 191; Class D—under 182. All these plans will mean a deal of paper work.

It will be up to the individual school to choose its own plan. No one plan should be used exclusively as there are

so many possible plans and variations that can be used. Variety will help to add interest. Weight is rather important in football because of the physical contact and force in the game. Height is important in basketball, because of the nature of that game. Age is important in baseball, track and field events, and tennis because experience is an important factor in these sports. Hence it would be possible to use weight and class or grade for football; height and class or grade for basketball; and age and class or grade for baseball, track and field events, and tennis. A height, weight, and age table is of great help in determining whether the boy is normal. Table I is added for the purpose of reference.

### III. Fall Athletics.

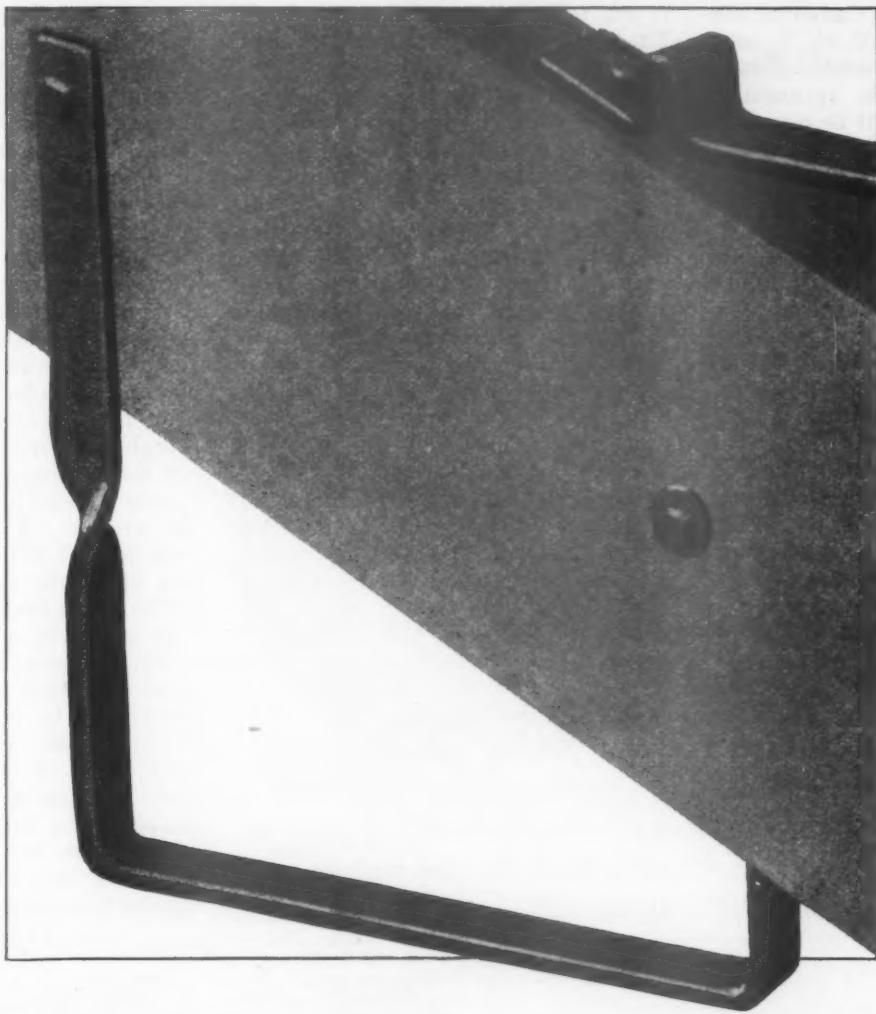
**Football.**—While football is the most popular sport, it is not quite so popular as an intramural sport for several reasons. In the first place the game requires intricate plays and team work which cannot be acquired without a considerable amount of time for practice. It is impossible to furnish the proper amount of coaching and to have the men train sufficiently for such strenuous activity. In the second place the equipment is too expensive for the intramural department to furnish. It is asking too much to have the individual player furnish his own equipment and no player should be permitted to enter a game unless he is properly equipped.<sup>55</sup> If it is impossible to overcome these two objections, football will have a place in the intramural program. If equipment is furnished at all it should be issued before a game and taken in afterwards. In this way it will only be necessary to have sufficient equipment for two teams. A full game is sixty minutes, divided into four quarters of fifteen minutes each, exclusive of time-out. A game, however, may be of shorter duration by mutual agreement of the contesting teams.<sup>56</sup> There is no distinction made between college and high school teams. Since the intramural player is not so well trained as the varsity player it seems wise to shorten the playing time to four quarters of ten minutes each, exclusive of time-outs.

<sup>54</sup>Mitchell, Elmer D.: *Intramural Athletics*, New York, 1925, p39.

<sup>55</sup>Ibid, pp55-56.

<sup>56</sup>Spalding's *Official Football Guide*, 1924, Part IV, p10.

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**Soccer.**—Soccer will be popular where a large proportion of the students are of English or Canadian descent. In other schools it will be most popular when placed in charge of a former player who is enthusiastic about the game. It will be necessary to work up interest. The game is not so popular with the average American boy because he cannot use his hands. The game is apt to become monotonous. A slight change in the scoring rules will aid soccer as an intramural sport—make corner kicks count one point and a goal count two points.<sup>56</sup>

**Speedball and Tag Football.**—There have been a number of substitutes suggested to replace football and soccer as intramural sports. Tag football has been substituted in some localities, but there is no uniform code of rules and it is difficult to officiate the game. The rules in speedball are few and easily understood and there is no complicated team play. There is more variety than in soccer. There is

Cross-country can be made very popular if properly conducted, otherwise it will be nothing but mere drudgery. The intramural course should be about two or three miles in length. All contestants should be plainly numbered. A cross-country meet is best conducted as an open meet.<sup>57</sup>

**Rifle Marksmanship.**—If there is an R. O. T. C. unit in the school, rifle shooting may become very popular, especially if conducted in co-operation with the military authorities. Meets and open tournaments will perhaps be sufficient. It is possible to hold matches with other schools by use of the telegraph and mail. All practice firing and match competition must be properly supervised by competent coaches.

**Sigma Delta Psi.**—The junior division of the Sigma Delta Psi, National Honorary Athletic Fraternity, has standards well adapted for use by high schools that wish to establish an honorary society of this sort. Can-

didates should begin their practice in the fall and take the tests at convenient times throughout the year. The requirements are given in Table II.<sup>58</sup>

**Athletic Badge Test for Boys.**—Candidates should begin their practice in the fall and take tests at convenient times throughout the year. Some have the impression that these tests are for elementary grades only. The Playground and Recreation Association of America which adopted the standards makes this explanation:

"It has been found that boys of 12 years of age should be able to qualify for the badge under the first test, elementary schools boys of 13 years and over for the second test, and high school boys for the third test. It does not seem, however, that the different standards should be limited to these age groups. Accordingly, no age or even weight limit is fixed. Any boy may enter any test at any time."

The requirements for the three tests are given in Table III.<sup>59</sup>

**Miscellaneous Sports.**—Local conditions will determine what other fall sports can be conducted successfully in any school. Volley ball lends itself very easily to tournament plans. It should be played outdoors as long as possible. As long as the weather remains warm, regular baseball could be played to a certain extent. Playground ball may also be played.

(To be continued in February)

<sup>56</sup>Ibid, p58.  
<sup>57</sup>"Athletic Badge Tests for Boys and Girls," *Physical Education Series No. 2*, Bureau of Education, 1923, pp1-2.

Table II  
Sigma Delta Psi Requirements—Junior Division

100 yard dash.....	12 seconds
220 yard low hurdles.....	33 seconds
Running high jump.....	4 feet 6 inches
Running broad jump.....	15 feet
16 pound shot.....	25 feet
Pole vault.....	7 feet 9 inches
Throwing baseball.....	200 feet on fly
Punting football.....	90 feet on fly
Swimming 150 yards.....	1 minute 15 seconds
Two-mile run.....	14 seconds
Tumbling.....	(a) Front hand spring (b) Front dive over 4 feet (c) Handstand 10 seconds Erect carriage
Posture.....	

Posture

no expensive equipment to buy. The penalties are so strict that there are few serious injuries. It has great possibilities as a substitute for football in an intramural athletic program.<sup>60</sup>

**Tennis.**—A fall tennis tournament should be held if the weather conditions will permit. A singles tournament should be held first. Then if there is sufficient interest and time a doubles tournament should be held. Definite dates should be set for the completion of each round and all matches forfeited which are not completed at the specified time. Inclement weather should be the only excuse permitted for postponement.<sup>61</sup>

**Cross-country Running.**—Cross-country runs should not be permitted unless properly conducted. All contestants should be required to pass a careful physical examination before being permitted to enter. There should be a few practice runs, carefully supervised by a competent coach.

<sup>56</sup>Mitchell, Elmer D.: *Intramural Athletics*, New York, 1925, pp55-6.

<sup>57</sup>Ibid, pp55-57.

<sup>58</sup>Ibid, p57.

<sup>59</sup>Ibid, p57.

Table III  
Athletic Badge Test for Boys  
First Test

1. Either—Pull-up (chinning).....	4 times
Or—Rope climb (using hands and legs).....	12 feet
2. Standing broad jump.....	5 feet 9 inches
3. Either—60 yard dash.....	9 seconds
Or—50 yard dash.....	8 seconds
4. Either—Baseball throw (accuracy).....	3 strikes out of 6 throws at 40 feet
Or—Baseball throw (distance).....	130 feet

1. Either—Pull-up (chinning).....	6 times
Or—Rope climb (using hands and legs).....	16 feet
2. Either—Standing broad jump.....	6 feet 6 inches
Or—Running broad jump.....	12 feet
3. Either—60 yard dash.....	8 seconds
Or—100 yard dash.....	13 2/5 seconds
4. Either—Baseball throw (accuracy).....	3 strikes out of 5 throws at 45 feet
Or—Baseball throw (distance).....	195 feet

1. Either—Pull-up (chinning).....	9 times
Or—Rope climb (using hands only).....	16 feet
2. Either—Running high jump.....	4 feet 4 inches
Or—Running broad jump.....	14 feet
3. Either—220 yard run.....	28 seconds
Or—100 yard dash.....	12 3/5 seconds
4. Either—Baseball throw (accuracy).....	3 strikes out of 5 throws at 50 feet
Or—Baseball throw (distance).....	220 feet
Or—8 pound shot put.....	28 feet

To pass a test a boy must qualify in four events, one from each of the four classes—climbing, jumping, running, and throwing. All tests must be made without the aid of spiked or cleated shoes of any sort; tennis or gymnasium shoes are allowed.



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# Report of E. K. Hall

Chairman American Intercollegiate Football Rules Committee for the Year 1927

FOR the past few years, the annual report of this Committee has consisted primarily of an enumeration of the more important changes made during the year. It has occurred to me that the members of the Association might be interested also in knowing something about the point of view from which the Committee approaches the consideration of possible changes in the rules.

## For a Better Game

In 1906, the Rules Committee set out very deliberately to materially change the game of football as it was then being played. It adopted the following definite fundamental objectives:

1. To make the game both safer and more interesting for the players.
2. To make the game a distinctly more open game.
3. To remove the premium on mere weight and to develop greater opportunity for speed, agility and brains.
4. To produce a game affording broader strategic possibilities, thereby giving the lighter teams and the teams of the smaller colleges a real chance and preventing the probable outcome of so many games from being a foregone conclusion.
5. To improve the standards of sportsmanship surrounding the game and by developing better officiating to remove the continual temptation to violate the rules which existed under the old game, partly by reason of the officials' inability to detect violations in the close formations, and partly by reason of the then customary practice of overlooking all but the most flagrant violations.

## A Fourteen Year Task

It took from 1906 to 1920 for the Rules Committee to complete the task it had set out to accomplish. A very great number of changes in the rules were necessary. It was obviously desirable in the interests of the sport to move slowly and for the changes to come gradually. Furthermore, some of the proposed changes necessarily required experimentation and were either abandoned or modified after trial.

Many of these changes as they appeared for the first time were not thoroughly understood and few changes were made that did not meet with severe and often bitter criticism. No change was made by the Committee, however, after mature delibera-

tion and every change was designed to contribute its share either toward eliminating the evils which had crept into the old game or toward developing the possibilities of the faster, more open and cleaner game which was the Committee's objective.

The adoption of the neutral zone, seven men on the line of scrimmage, the elimination of pulling and pushing, the elimination of momentum before the ball was put in play, the rule calling for ten yards in four downs as against five yards in three downs, the introduction of the forward pass, the introduction of the onside kick (later eliminated when it no longer became necessary), the liberal provision for the use of substitutes, the generous provision for taking out time, the introduction of more severe and more definite penalties for various kinds of unsportsmanlike conduct, the addition of two officials, the additional authority given to the officials to the end that the game might be supervised in a more orderly and effective manner, the removal of coaches and others from the sidelines all these major changes in the rules and many changes of less importance which I have not enumerated—each and every one contributed its part in bringing about the safer, more open, faster, cleaner and more interesting game of today.

## Game Standardized Since 1920

In the annual report of the Rules Committee at the end of the season of 1920, I stated that the Committee felt that the task it undertook in 1906 had been practically completed, that no further fundamental changes were contemplated and that so far as it could see, the coaches and players would now have an opportunity to devote their entire time to the development of the game under rules which would probably remain standard, and that they would no longer be called upon to devote any substantial amount of time to adjusting the game of the previous season to changes made in the rules between seasons.

Since 1920, there have been no fundamental changes in the rules. From time to time it has been found necessary to clarify the meaning or intent of a given rule in view of unforeseen combinations of facts. It has also been found necessary to check certain practices or tendencies which were developing in the game and which seemed to be contrary to its best interests. The purposes of the changes

have been to preserve and perfect the game as it was finally developed in 1920—never to essentially modify it.

## How Each Season Is Reviewed

Each year, since 1920, as the members of the Committee come together to review the experience of the season just closed, they approach the question of possible changes in the rules from the point of view indicated by the following questions:

1. Is there anything we can do to make the game still safer for the players?
2. Is there anything we can do to make the game still more open or to broaden further its strategic possibilities?
3. Are there any practices developing in the game which tend to nullify any of the provisions in the rules which were designed to eliminate undesirable features of the old game?
4. Are there any tendencies developing which if not checked might mar or impair the fitness of the game as a sport or lower the standards of good sportsmanship now so generally surrounding it?
5. Is there anything to indicate that the necessary balance between the offense and the defense is getting out of adjustment?

## Review of Season of 1926

Last year as the Committee considered these questions, it was unanimous in the belief that several tendencies were appearing in the game which required consideration. The most outstanding of these was the illegal use of the shift. Another was the increasing tendency, sometimes intentional though often unintentional toward unreasonable delay of the game by consuming too much time in the huddle and in otherwise using up too much time between plays. The practice also seemed to be increasing for the side on the defensive to allow kicked balls to drop to the ground without any attempt to catch them and run them back. The practice was also developing, in some sections of the country, of the players using certain equipment which was believed to be dangerous to other players.

## The Illegal Use of the Shift

The most serious of these problems was the illegal shift. The Committee was extremely unwilling to abolish the shift, although its abolition was strongly urged at the end of the sea-

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son by many of the best friends of the game who felt that the illegal shift could be eliminated only by the elimination of the shift itself. The Committee felt that it would be a distinct loss to the game to lose the shift and the strategic possibilities it affords, and accordingly decided to put more teeth into the existing rule which already required shifting players to come to an absolute stop. This was accomplished by providing that after the shift the players should remain stationary in their new positions for a period of approximately one second. The penalty was also increased from five yards to fifteen yards. The result of this change, which was almost universally accepted in fine spirit by both players and coaches, has been eminently satisfactory. The illegal shift has disappeared and the danger of any return to momentum plays through this device has apparently been eliminated.

#### Unreasonable Delay

In order to prevent unreasonable delay in putting the ball in play by remaining in the huddle or otherwise, the officials were given definite yard-sticks which they might use if they so desired in interpreting what was unreasonable delay. This was done by providing that more than fifteen seconds in the huddle or more than thirty seconds delay in putting the ball in play might be considered as *prima facie* evidence of unreasonable delay. This change has also apparently accomplished its purpose—the result being that the game has been speeded up and the unnecessary delays which were marring so many games in the season of 1926 practically disappeared in 1927.

#### Catching and Running Back Punts

One of the finest plays of the game has always been the catching and running back of punts. The practice, which has gradually been increasing for several years, of allowing punts to drop to the ground without any effort to catch them or run them back, was, it seemed to the Committee, marring the game, and robbing it of one of its traditional and most distinctive features. The reason for this practice was obvious. If a defending player touches the ball, but fails to catch it, he has put all of the kicking side on-side. Any one of them could recover the ball and run with it. Often this might result in a touchdown. Therefore, the defensive side took no chances, played safe and made no attempt to catch the punt. The Committee decided to eliminate the principal reason underlying this practice by removing the hazard of a possible adverse touchdown in case of failure to

catch the punt. This was done by providing that in case the ball is touched, but not caught, it may, as formerly, be recovered by the kicking side, but is dead at the point of recovery, and may not be advanced.

This change has also accomplished, in part at least, its purpose. We have seen in the past season more and better catching and running back of punts than for several years.

#### Moving Back the Goal Posts

Another distinctive and in the earlier days an extremely important feature of the game is the goal after touchdown. Although, under the present rules, the extra point after touchdown may be secured either by carrying the ball over the line, by a forward pass or a drop or place kick, the place kick had come to be the method almost always used. The reason was quite clear. The ball being put in play on the three yard line meant that a kick of only thirteen to fifteen yards was required. For this short distance the so-called pendulum kick was developed. This was so easy to execute that unless it was hurried by the defense its success was almost assured, and the result was more or less of an anti-climax after the touchdown.

By moving the goal posts back to the end line instead of leaving them on the goal line, five things would be accomplished, all of them, in the opinion of the Committee, for the good of the game.

1. Teams electing to try for their point after touchdown by kicking a goal would have to kick at least twenty-three or twenty-five yards, which requires real skill as compared with a thirteen yard pendulum kick.

2. It would afford a better angle from which to kick goals from the field for a team forced to kick from a position not directly in front of the goal posts.

3. It would force teams relying on a single star drop or place kicker for their scoring to carry the ball at least 10 yards nearer the goal line before trying for their field goals.

4. It would remove the unfair handicap which has always existed when a team is forced to kick out from behind its own goal posts.

5. And far the most important of all, it would remove the danger to players forced to scrimmage near the goal posts. This has been the source of many injuries in the past.

Accordingly the rule moving the posts back to the end line was adopted. The kicking of a goal after touchdown now requires real skill and the Committee hopes that the danger so long

surrounding the goal posts is forever removed from the game.

#### The Game Primarily for the Players

This change has occasioned a considerable amount of criticism and many requests have been made that the goal posts be put back. The argument is advanced that it is more difficult for the spectators to tell whether the play which is near the goal line has resulted in a touchdown. The answer is clear. If the inconvenienced spectator can restrain his curiosity for about three to five seconds longer he will be advised in no uncertain terms as to whether the ball is "over" or not. Furthermore, the Rules Committee has always acted on the principle that this game was a game primarily for the boys who play it and only incidentally for those who watch it. When the permanent safety of the boys must give way to the momentary convenience of the spectators our ideas as to the true purposes of academic sport will have to come up for drastic and annihilating revision.

#### Balance Between Offense and Defense

The Committee having tentatively adopted the foregoing changes, proceeded to review them before bringing them up for final action. Members of the Committee were unanimous in their opinion that the provision designed to prevent the illegal shift was vital and that all the other changes were distinctly desirable in the best interests of the game. They were forced to admit, however, that all of these changes in varying degrees tended to curtail the strategic possibilities open to the offense. The one second stop in the shift might conceivably affect even the legitimate shift. The fifteen and thirty second time limits in the huddle and in putting the ball in play might, as has been demonstrated in the past season, sometimes result in penalties against the team which is unintentionally consuming an unnecessary amount of time. Taking away from the members of the kicking side the opportunity to advance the ball after they had legally recovered it following a muffed punt obviously deprived the offense of certain opportunities to advance the ball which had heretofore existed. And moving the goal posts back ten yards obviously made it more difficult to score by goals from the field and more difficult to kick a goal for the point after touchdown.

In other words, in protecting what it deemed to be the best interests of the game, the action of the Committee in every case had been to the advantage of the team on the defensive, and to this extent had perhaps im-

paired the necessary balance between the offense and the defense.

#### The Lateral Pass

In considering what, if anything, might be done to compensate the offense, the Committee decided to give to the strategy of the offense an opportunity to use the backward or lateral pass without being exposed to the tremendous hazard which has for years discouraged its development, and allowed it to fall into disuse. If a lateral pass under the rules prior to 1927 was not completed, the ball became a free ball with the chances distinctly favoring recovery by the defense and the possible running of it back through an unprotected field for a touchdown. The strategic possibilities of the lateral pass did not justify taking these chances except in isolated cases and the lateral pass, formerly one of its outstanding features, had practically disappeared from the game.

In order to remove this hazard, the Committee adopted a rule providing that in case a backward or lateral pass is not completed, the ball shall be dead where it strikes the ground and cannot be recovered by the defense—the offense losing simply a down and distance, but not the ball.

To what extent this change will encourage the development and use of the lateral pass as part of the strategy of the offense, it is too early to predict. As in the case of the forward pass, it will undoubtedly take at least three or four years to develop its real possibilities. There is no question, however, but that to whatever extent the lateral pass is developed as a ground gaining play, to the same extent it will force a widening of the defense, and thus be of assistance to every other feature of the running game.

#### No Changes Contemplated for 1928

The Committee is much gratified with the result of the changes as shown in the games during the season just closed. Never have we seen better football. As long as we can hold the game essentially as it is today, we will apparently have the finest kind of a game—open, clean, fast, interesting, safe, and with such a wealth of strategic possibilities that the under dog always has his chance to come back and the defeated team an opportunity to win the following week.

No changes in the rules are contemplated by the Committee other than certain minor changes for the purpose of clarifying, adjusting or perfecting provisions already in the rules.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. K. HALL, Chairman.



New men's gymnasium. An installation of Knockdown Bleachers at the University of Illinois

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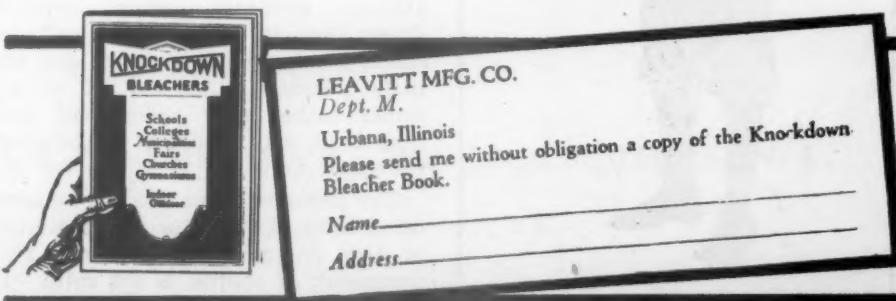
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## Expanding the Program in Athletics

By S. C. Staley

DURING the past few years the writer has been repeatedly impressed by the fact that teachers of physical education and athletic coaches, on the whole, are extremely apathetic about expanding the program of activities used in interscholastic athletic competition. In general, football, baseball, basketball, track and field, and perhaps one or two other activities, such as swimming, tennis, or golf, receive common approval, but a great number of other worth while activities are totally ignored or neglected.

This disinclination and consequent failure to extend the program of activities is due to a number of causes. Among a great number, the following seem to be most common.

To the writer's notion, the outstanding cause is the very decided tendency of instructors to reproduce their own training. The athletic coach or teacher of physical education, most likely, participated in the traditional sports during his own period of schooling. He knows them, understands them, and appreciates them. His own interest leads him to reproduce them in his own work, which is all well and good, but in too many instances it also leads him to ignore or belittle other activities.

Many coaches object to the introduction of new sports on the grounds that these added activities will attract athletes away from the sports which are already established. This objection is frequently advanced as an argument against the promotion of soccer football. It will take players away from intercollegiate football squad. On the whole this is a defensive position assumed by the coach in the interest of summoning all of the school's power in the sport or sports in which he has a dominant interest. This attitude may be labeled as undiluted selfishness and one that finds little justification when the facts are known. Apart from the fact that it constitutes a narrow view of the athletic program, actual practice shows that, in the great majority of cases, the established sports are but little affected. Anyway if a boy would rather play volley ball than basketball, why should he not be given the opportunity.

The argument that there is no spectator interest in these new activities is also frequently presented. This argument, of course, is not valid. In

the first place one cannot expect spectators to become immediately interested in a sport with which they are not familiar. It is the teacher's job to develop this interest. Apart from this, however, athletics should not be organized and promoted for the spectators. They should be promoted and carried on primarily for those who take active part in them. There is no objection to admitting spectators to athletic competitions; on the contrary it is desirable and necessary to do so, but in every respect their interests should be subordinated to that of the contestants.

Not uncommonly, in discussions of this problem, the argument is advanced that the school already promotes a list of activities sufficiently numerous and varied. This point of view undoubtedly grows out of a narrow vision of the program. The instructor should promote as many sports as there are human interests.

Lack of money constitutes another argument used for limiting the number of sports. There is no question but that in some instances, conditions justify this statement, but in the great majority of cases it constitutes nothing more than excuse for permitting the coach to sidestep what appears to be additional work.

Needless to say the writer is wholly opposed to this very evident tendency to restrict the program in interscholastic athletic competition. The specialist in physical education should extend every effort to promote and foster a most comprehensive program. The physical director's outstanding service is that of developing athletic interests. In doing this he should utilize all the athletic activities which are normally available.

The point of view which is advanced in the present paper may be aptly illustrated by a case which has recently developed here at the University of Illinois. Prior to the present year the program in athletics included football, basketball, baseball, track and field, and a number of other athletic activities. Normally there are about one thousand men practicing these activities on the varsity squads. During the present season we added soccer football to the list of activities. As a result we have had approximately one hundred men practicing soccer football all fall. The great majority of this group were not participants in the other sports. In other words,

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I had no idea of commercializing this basketball record, which I have used with much success for the past four years until one day about a year ago a visiting basketball coach remarked—"That's a good idea, I would like to have one just like it." Similar remarks and requests from numerous other basketball coaches, players and enthusiasts gave me further encouragement and here it is.

TEAM		BASKETBALL RECORD 1926-1927																		GAMES							
SARATOGA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.		1926-1927																		WON 22	LOST 3	TEAM					
DATE	HOME	DEC 11	DEC 17	DEC 23	JAN 7	JAN 13	JAN 21	JAN 28	FEB 4	FEB 11	FEB 18	FEB 24	MAR 1	MAR 8	MAR 15	MAR 22	MAR 29	APR 5	APR 12	APR 19	APR 26	APR 30	PLAYERS	TOTAL	TEAM		
WHE	PLAYED	HOME	HOME	HOME	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	TEAM	TOTAL	TEAM	
SCORE - HS	32	36	32	37	24	45	31	31	36	36	23	45	23	27	23	29	46	21	16	20	27	35	32	36	34	847	847
OPPONENTS	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	TEAM
HOME OPPONENTS	10	14	10	23	27	17	12	20	15	13	11	10	12	15	26	18	20	18	6	13	16	22	17	24	27	33	33
PLAYERS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
W	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
L	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
1. Feldman, C. & C.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	101
2. Capraro, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	37
3. Capraro, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	39
4. Davis, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	133
5. Ferraro, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	61
6. Fowler, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	61
7. McHughan, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	60
8. Power, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	57
9. Smith, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	40
10. Sladean, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
11. Yeachell, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	151
12. Hayes, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	67
13. Beaton, J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
14. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
15. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
16. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
17. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
18. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
19. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
20. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
21. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
22. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
23. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
24. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
FOULS	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
US	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TECHNICAL	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
OPPS	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
PERCENT	500	428	500	553	323	250	444	111	500	500	633	400	763	250	667	900	454	250	500	285	700	461	1000	15	423		
US	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TECHNICAL	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
OPPS	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
PERCENT	600	667	657	571	667	285	300	553	285	353	285	533	1000	833	300	500	449	125	250	600	375	571	363	774	20	241	

At the close of each game the necessary information may be filled in by your manager, and then totaled at the end of the season. As a suggestion I use one copy during the playing season, and have a much neater copy filled in at the close of the season for further reference.

Note:—This chart is one-sixteenth of the original size. The full size chart which I am selling is approximately 12"x25" and arranged for 15 players and 25 games.

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by extending our program to include one more sport we have been instrumental in developing a live athletic interest among one hundred men who normally were not reached. By continuing this plan of extension and adding lacrosse, boxing, volley ball, and other activities to our program we would reach additional numbers. At present the university athletic authorities organize and maintain squads in thirteen different sports. Approximately fifteen per cent of the boys in school are enrolled in these squads. By adding other sports we could greatly increase this percentage.

Both high schools and colleges are at present overlooking or neglecting three athletic sports which, from the writer's point of view, are extremely significant and worth while. These are volley ball, soccer, and handball.

The game of volley ball has developed with amazing rapidity in the past four or five years. The average director of physical education thinks of this game in terms of "simply batting a ball back and forth across the net." Under proper coaching this game may be developed to the point where it is equally as interesting, if not more interesting, than the game of basketball. This fact has been repeatedly demonstrated in the Y. M. C. A., and in a number of other institutions. In addition this game has the advantage in that it may be readily carried over into adult life. Normally basketball may be played for a year or two after the individual has graduated from high school or college. Volley ball, on the other hand, may be played, and is played through middle life and well into old age. It should be organized and promoted as an interscholastic or intercollegiate activity in every high school and college in the country.

Soccer football, in many respects, is more suited for high school use than intercollegiate football. In the first place the cost for maintenance is much less; in the second place the possibilities of injury are far less; and in the third place the possibilities of carry-over into adult life are far greater. Soccer is the outstanding international athletic contest. It is the national sport in every civilized country under the sun, excepting the United States. Here, the sport has been unwisely neglected. There is no necessity for attempting to make soccer our national sport as elsewhere, but in the face of its universal endorsement and the many merits which it undoubtedly has, it seems regrettable that the American physical directors and coaches do not take adequate measures to promote it.

In a great number of small high schools football is not played because of lack of material. There are not enough boys of appropriate size to organize a presentable team. In many schools of this type, soccer football, which may be well played by boys of medium size, or even small size, could be introduced and carried on.

All large schools with a boy enrollment of two hundred or more likewise could well afford to organize and promote the game. During the fall, schools of this size organize an interscholastic football team which secures the attendance and regular practice of perhaps thirty boys. This arrangement leaves from two hundred to one thousand boys with no active athletic interest during this season. Soccer football could well be added to the list in an attempt to reach those who pass up the opportunity or are prevented because of size from playing the intercollegiate game.

Handball, so far as I know, is not used for interscholastic competition at the present time. Yet innumerable reasons could be cited why it might thus be used. It is a splendid game for conditioning and recreation purposes. Like volley ball and soccer it may be played, and is played, well on through middle age. The expense for equipment is limited.

If the game were promoted as an interscholastic sport, it would be best to use the single wall game. Most schools could layout a court or two of this sort at very little cost. In many instances it would necessitate no expense beyond marking lines on wall and floor. Besides a single wall court would permit spectators. Meets could be organized on the basis of two doubles matches and four singles matches as in tennis. If properly promoted more than half the schools in the country could readily organize and conduct teams in this sport. Teams are small, so travel expenses would be limited. District and state championships could be organized at moderate cost.

All in all, the athletic program would be far more satisfactory if, instead of promoting a few sports very intensively, as we do at present, we promoted many sports less intensively. This would call for certain modification in present practices but this could be done without handicap in all instances, and in some instances with distinct advantage. In the first place the sports might be equally distributed throughout the year in a seasonal manner. Each sport might be restricted to one months practice and two months of active competition. Unseasonal training in the sports

should be barred. Participation in tournaments should be restricted. Students might be limited to one sport a season or one sport a semester. In these and other ways the program could be adapted to the suggested plan.

The athletic coach who has caught the vision of having all the boys participate in a wide variety of activities is in step with the times. The coach, who wants to limit this work to one sport a season, is still clinging to ideas that might have been justified a decade or two ago but are no longer tenable.

## The 1928 Basketball Rules

(Continued from page 20)

and so turns his back to the defensive player, he may be guarded from the rear legally as follows: The defensive player may swing one arm from the side and so place his hand upon the ball. If in so doing he makes contact with the fingers only of the holder of the ball, the play is legal. If, however, the guarding player makes contact by placing his hand or arm on or over the shoulder of the possessor of the ball, it is a foul, whether the ball is played or not. If the defensive man in playing the ball from the side fails to make contact with the ball but does so with the arms or body of his opponent, it is a foul.

If the possessor of the ball pivots with an opponent's hand on the ball, the defensive player must first remove the hand before placing the other free hand on the ball. In other words, two hands on or around an opponent constitutes a foul whether or not the ball is played.

Unintentional contact with the possessor of the ball by the guarding player when the latter at the same time actually makes contact with the ball is not a foul. Here again the officials must rely on judgment. It is often difficult to tell whether the contact made was with intention or not.

Another case that has caused many heated words is the one of a dribbler charging straight down the floor and a guard set to meet him. Sometimes a foul on the dribbler was called on the guard or a double foul was given. Whatever was done invariably a kick was registered. The Conference on the above question now says: The defensive man has the right at all times to come to a stop anywhere on the court, even though he stops in the course or in the anticipated course of an opponent. If the dribbler drives straight on into a stationary opponent, making no bona fide effort by chang-

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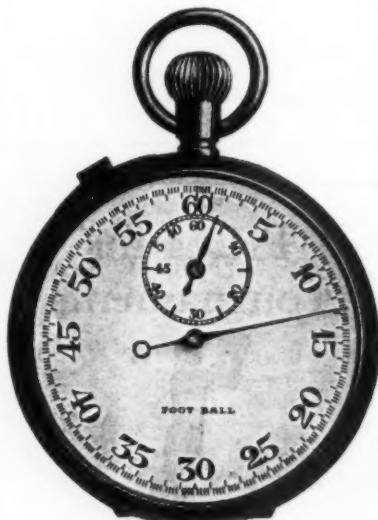
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ing his course to avoid the stationary man, a foul should be called on the dribbler for charging. The defensive man is privileged to stand still in front of any player at any time.

The question of guarding an opponent who does not have the ball has rocked basketball circles for years. The Conference has tried to meet the question thus: When a defensive player partially or fully faces an opponent who does not have the ball and locates in such proximity to him that contact results when the offensive player advances for the pass, a foul for blocking should be called. However, when the defense faces the ball and is either stationary or else advances towards it, and in this situation is overtaken, crowded or pushed by the offensive man, the foul, if any, is on the offense. The cardinal right of the defense is the right of the defense to locate anywhere on the court and stand in any position or course through which the offense may desire to run, provided the defense does not face his opponent and does not shift to maintain this impeding position.

## A Review of 1927 Athletics

(Continued from page 10)

president; and the undersigned as secretary-treasurer.

Considerable controversy has developed over post-season games in football. There is no plan for a state football championship to be determined and as many as eight teams claimed this honor. This causes the mix-up each year. Permission was given Medford of southern Oregon to play McLaughlin of eastern Oregon but the board of control felt this was not a state championship game as other teams with considerable strength, including the City of Portland, did not participate. Medford High School was probably the strongest in the state. This is personal opinion, however.

Eugene High School won the state championship in basketball last year and made a good showing at the national tournament in Chicago.

A meeting of the state association has been set for Friday, December 30 and is held in conjunction, and at the same time, the state teachers' association convenes in Portland.

We have but one state championship plan, that is in basketball, but it is possible that plans for a state football championship may develop at the coming annual meeting.

Financial report of 1927 state basketball tournament conducted at Wil-

lamette University, Salem, Oregon, March 10, 11 and 12, 1927.

Gross proceeds ..... \$4,659.75

Attendance—

Student season tickets ..... 565

Adult season tickets ..... 387

General admission, approximately ..... 10,000

Per cent of transportation paid to competing schools ..... 100

Per cent of meals and lodging paid to competing schools ..... 100

Per cent of competing school's expenses paid by association ..... 100

Amounts paid each school—

Astoria ..... \$ 134.00

Eugene ..... 99.00

La Grande ..... 287.28

Marshfield ..... 198.40

Medford ..... 254.46

Pendleton ..... 199.25

Franklin ..... 86.00

Tillamook ..... 139.50

Wasco ..... 143.75

Total ..... \$1,541.64

Other expenses, including advertising, clerical help, laundry, officials, expense board of control, tournament help, trophies, and miscellaneous. \$861.06

Total expense ..... \$2,402.70

Balance ..... \$2,257.05

Note: This balance was divided fifty-fifty with Willamette University.

## Athletics in the Texas High Schools

By Ray B. Henderson

Athletic Director, League Bureau, Division of Extension

### Basketball

ONE THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR teams participated in games leading to the state championship. The state tournament was held at the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College at College Station, March 4 and 5. Fourteen teams representing the twenty-seven districts into which the state is divided, took part in the state tournament.

The following teams won the twenty-seven district championships:

Canyon, Ralls, Kirkland, Wichita Falls, Gainesville, Sulphur Springs, Hughes Springs, Colorado, Cisco, Denton, Blum, Athens, Carlton, Temple, Huntsville, Beaumont, Alpine, Sherwood, Fredericksburg, Austin, Bellville, John H. Reagan High School of Houston, Yancey, Brackenridge High School of San Antonio, Shiner, Taft and Weslaco.

The state tournament results follow:

First Round—San Antonio 24, Blum 20; Houston 29, Kirkland 23; Austin 49, Taft 8; Ralls 39, Carlton



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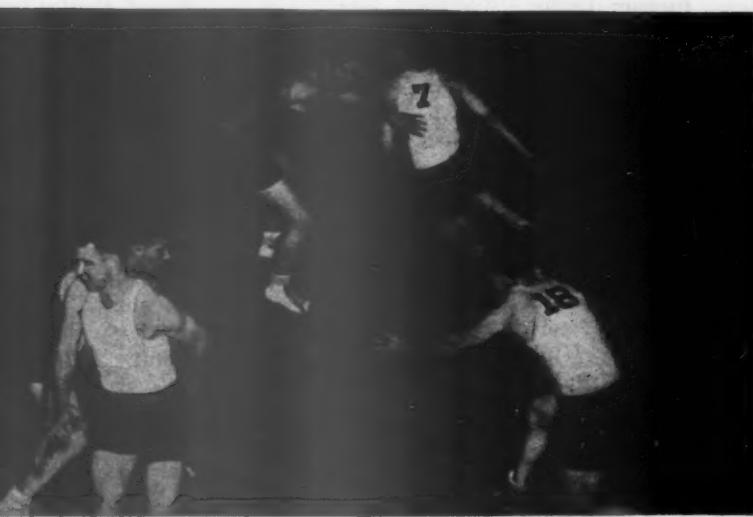
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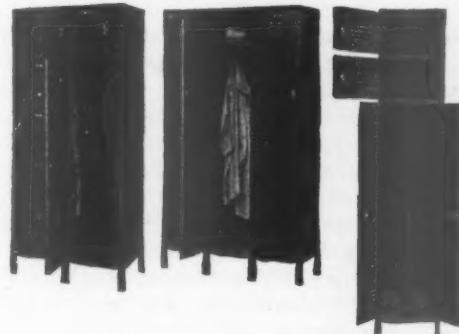
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23; Alpine 25, Sulphur Springs 22; Athens 39, Shiner 9.

Second Round—Denton 40, San Antonio 17; Houston 18, Austin 17; Ralls 32, Alpine 14; Athens 30, Cisco 18.

Semi-Finals—Denton 24, Houston 16; Athens 27, Ralls 23.

Finals—Athens 23, Denton 14. Ralls 13, Houston 12, for third place.

#### High School Track and Field Meet

The state track and field meet was held in Memorial Stadium at the University of Texas, May 6 and 7, 1927. The Electra team, coached by Jim Reese, former Texas University distance runner and holder of the National Inter-collegiate mile record, won the meet with 19 1/3 points. Freeport was second with 12 points, and Masonic Home and School of Ft. Worth, third with 10 points.

Other schools that scored as many as five points in the meet follow: Forest Avenue High School of Dallas, 8 1/3; Kaufman, 7; Brackenridge High School of San Antonio, 7; Main Avenue High School of San Antonio, 6; North Side High School of Ft. Worth, 5; Smithville, 5; Flomot, 5; Rochelle, 5; Burk Burnett, 5; Farmersville, 5; Beeville, 5.

The only new record established was in the 220-yard dash. Earl Davis of Freeport has the distinction of breaking this record three times in the same meet. The old record of 21 9/10 seconds was held by Bracey of Humble. In Davis' trial heat he ran the distance in 21 8/10 seconds. In the semi-finals he made 21 7/10 seconds, and in the final he set his record of 21 5/10 seconds. Davis also tied the state record of 9 9/10 seconds in the 100-yard dash. He shares this record with Weldon Draper of Ft. Worth, who first set the record in 1925.

Hall of the Masonic Home and School of Ft. Worth was the only other contestant who won two first places. Hall took first place in the 12-pound shot put with a distance of fifty feet, six and three-fourth inches, and he won the discus throw with 128 feet, five inches.

Other first place winners follow:

120 High Hurdles—Culpepper (Electra), time 15 5/10 seconds.

220-yard High Hurdles—Kent (Electra), time 24 8/10 seconds.

440-yard Run—Cates (Rochelle), time 52 2/10 seconds.

880-yard Run—Brainard (Brackenridge High School, San Antonio), time 2 minutes, 4 7/10 seconds.

One Mile Run—Hood (Burk Burnett), time 4 minutes, 42 9/10 seconds.

One Mile Relay—Farmersville High School, time 3 minutes, 31 9/10 seconds.

Pole Vault—Nichols (Childress), Baldry (Forest Avenue High School of Dallas), and Cloninger (Electra), tied, height 11 ft. 3 inches.

Running High Jump—Strickland (Cooledge) and Fisher (Mullin) tied, height 6 feet, 2 inches.

Running Broad Jump—Terry (Beeville), distance 21 feet, 9 1/2 inches.

Javelin Throw—Gates (Flomot) distance 172 feet, 1 inch.

Davis of Freeport and Hall of Masonic Home and School of Ft. Worth tied for high point man with 10 points each.

#### Rural Pentathlon

The Rural Pentathlon is a five-event athletic contest open only to one-and two-teacher rural schools in Texas. The first state contest was held in connection with the state track and field meet, May 6 and 7, 1927. Odis St. Clair of the Pleasant Valley School won first place with seventeen points, while Hewel Johnson of the East Mountain school was a close second with sixteen points. Thurman Jones of Brigham was third, and Calvin Hamm of Sunny Hill was fourth.

#### Tennis

Twenty-seven teams of doubles and twenty-seven contestants in singles participated in the state tennis meet. The results of the semi-finals and finals in each division follow:

Boys' Doubles, Semi-finals—Austin defeated Brady, score, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3. El Paso defeated Ft. Worth, score, 6-0, 6-3.

Final—Austin defeated El Paso, score, 3-6, 1-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

Girls' Doubles, Semi-Finals—Chillicothe defeated Georgetown, score, 6-1, 6-2. Calvert defeated Paint Rock, score, 6-2, 6-0.

Final—Calvert defeated Chillicothe, score, 7-5, 7-5.

Boys' Singles, Semi-finals—El Paso defeated Oak Cliff (Dallas), score, 6-4, 7-5. Austin defeated Houston, score, 6-0, 6-3.

Final—Austin defeated El Paso, score, 6-1, 7-5, 7-5.

Girls' Singles, Semi-finals—Liberty defeated Galveston, score, 6-3, 6-4. Main Avenue (San Antonio) defeated Sweetwater, score, 6-1, 6-1.

Final—Main Avenue defeated Liberty, score 6-4, 6-1.

#### Football

Three hundred and twenty-five teams enrolled for participation in Interscholastic League football. The schools were divided into two classes. Competition among the larger schools was carried on to a state championship, but no state championship was offered for the smaller schools. A small school has the option of entering competition for state champion-

ship if it wishes to do so. The state is divided into eight districts for Class A and sixteen districts for Class B.

For the third consecutive year the Waco High School, coached by Paul Tyson, won the state championship by defeating the strong Abilene team at Waco December 16, 1927, by the score of 21-14. For six consecutive years Paul Tyson has led his team through stiff competition to the state championship contest, winning the championship four times and losing twice in the final game.

Abilene holds the honor of having played in three championship contests, losing to Waco in 1922, winning from Waco in 1923, and again losing to Waco in 1927.

Other district championships in Class A follow: Amarillo, Forest Avenue High School of Dallas, Cleburne, Sherman, Jefferson Davis High School of Houston.

The Class B district champions follow: Canyon, Slaton, Sweetwater, Midland, Strawn, Farmersville, Longview, Livingston, Fredericksburg, Itasca, Georgetown, Brenham, El Campo, Edna, Laredo.

## Colorado High School Athletics 1927

By W. N. Grein

Much progress has been made in Colorado during the year 1927 through the development of better spirit, cooperation, realization of common problems, and a wholesome respect for the rights of others amongst the high schools, throughout the state. A survey of existing conditions should show an improvement in personal equipment for players, abilities of the various coaching staff, in the playing fields as well as in the officiating, and many other phases usually considered too difficult to measure.

The Colorado High School Athletic Conference is composed of various local leagues of from four to twelve schools each. The governing body is a Board of Control composed of a representative from each league. During the past year an important progressive step was made in the appointment of a paid secretary or commissioner for the conference; Mr. R. W. Truscott, superintendent of schools, Loveland, Colorado, accepted this appointment and is giving part of his valuable time to this work. He has an executive committee composed of three members to assist him.

#### Basketball

Basketball is still the most popular game we have from the standpoint of

teams and individuals competing; the interscholastic sports program of many schools consists of only basketball competition. The culmination of the basketball season was the State Basketball Tournament at which the twenty-one league champions met to determine the state champion in basketball. This tournament was very successfully handled by the Colorado Agricultural College of Fort Collins from the standpoint of finances, conduct of tournament, and of entertainment of participants. The single elimination tournament was held with a consolation tournament for those teams eliminated in the first round.

North High School, Denver, and Colorado Springs High School, Colorado Springs, were the contenders in the final game. The North High School team was composed of large players who played a slow, deliberate game; their offense developed slowly and proved very difficult for the Colorado Springs players to stop. The Colorado Springs team was composed of small players who played a fast game and possessed a quick breaking offense. On account of their superior physical condition, North High School team won a fiercely contested game 27 to 24.

(Continued in February issue)

### A Review of Track Athletics in 1927

(Continued from page 14)

high strung type of runners, that are hard to beat when kept from wasting their energy before the race comes off. He runs with good form, and seems to slip along the ground with little effort.

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(To be continued in February)



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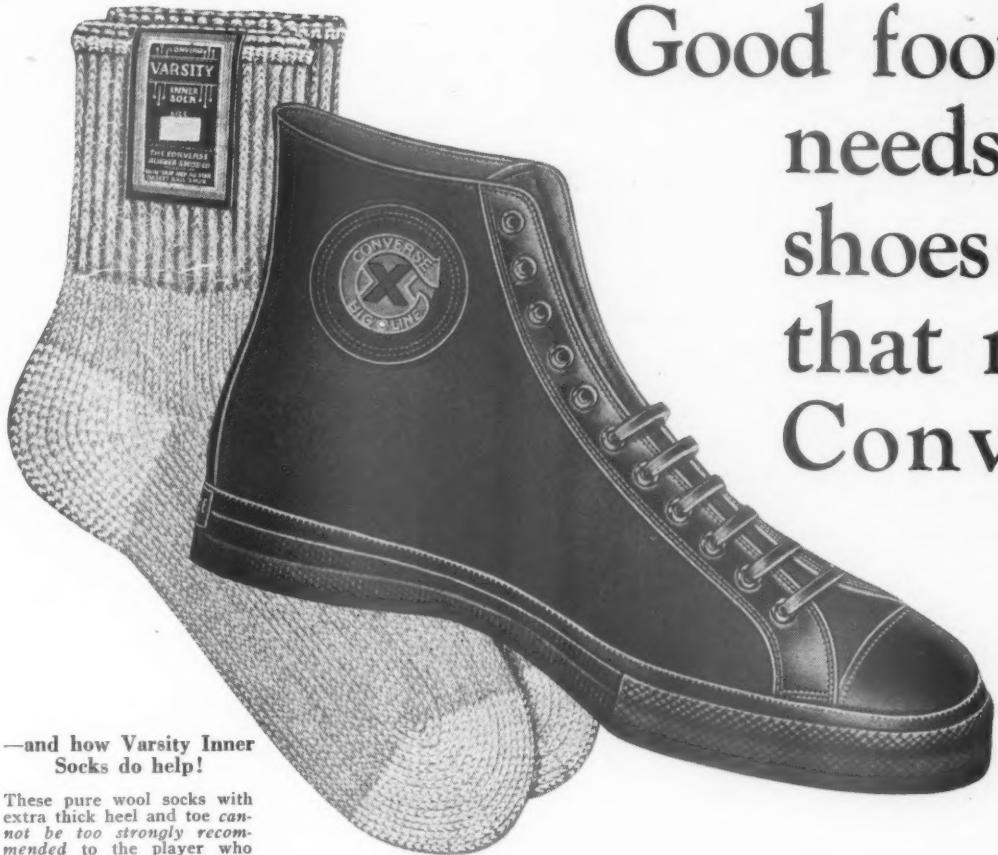
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